182d

OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

MANUFACTURES, TRADE, AND PRESENT STATE OF IRELAND.

By JOHN LORD SHEFFIELD.

——— Non Hoſtem, inimicaque Caſtra
Argivûm, veſtras Spes Uritis ———

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M.DCC.LXXXV.

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BRITISH MUSEUM

ERRATA.

Page 17, line 17, for *twentieth*, read *fifth*.

Table IV.

Year 1780,	for	2,381,234	18	3	read	2,384,898	16	17	
1781,	—	2,180,215	7	11	—	2,187,408	15	1	
1782,	—	2,699,825	13	8	—	2,709,766	18	$2\frac{3}{4}$	

PART THE SECOND.

MANUFACTURES.

TO aſſiſt the reader in forming an accurate idea, and in judging of the preſent ſtate of Ireland, it may be proper to inquire ſeparately into her ſeveral fabrics, and alſo to examine the principal articles of her trade with the different parts of the world. Manufactures being the foundation of commerce, they ſhould be previouſly conſidered; and the linen manufacture of Ireland, undoubtedly, claims the firſt attention.

LINEN MANUFACTURE.

It has ſufficiently appeared that the linen is, by far, the firſt manufacture of Ireland, and it is reaſonable to flatter ourſelves, that there is an opening for a very great extenſion of that trade. The author of the pamphlet, entitled, "Information to the "People of Ireland on the Linen Trade," publiſhed by the Linen Board of Ireland, very properly obſerves, that Spain and Portugal alone take more linen than any one

nation could ſupply; and that we ſhould alter and adapt our linens to the demand not only of the Spaniards, but alſo of the Portugueſe and their reſpective colonial poſſeſſions. We ſhould endeavour to prepare our linens for the markets of different countries; we have the three induſtrious nations of France, Flanders, and Germany, to contend with; we ſhould obtain patterns, and imitate the linens of thoſe countries which are in greateſt demand abroad. If only two or three ſorts of our linens could gain credit in Spain, we might be ſatisfied until time ſhould give us an opportunity of imitating others; and to gain this credit may not be difficult, as our linens in general are of a more durable quality than the foreign. When it is conſidered that not only Spain and Portugal, but all America, both North and South, and the iſlands of that continent, the coaſt of Africa, and many other countries, will require an inexhauſtible ſupply, it ſhould quicken, in particular, the induſtry of Ireland. She has every advantage that France, Flanders, and Germany have; ſhe has more, a national protection; a parliament forward to aſſiſt with the greateſt liberality, and equally eager

to

to give employment and reward to induſtry: and this being the caſe, it is extraordinary that ſhe cannot ſell almoſt every article of linen as cheap, or cheaper, than any country. There is not a tax which neceſſarily falls on her manufactures, unleſs two ſhillings hearth money on a cottage, and the exciſe on beer, can be called ſuch; indeed the remains of the old ſyſtem which did not conſider cuſtom duties as regulations of trade, but merely as matter of revenue, ſtill exiſt too much in Ireland; and ſome cuſtoms inwards on raw materials, may, properly, be conſidered as a tax on manufactures. In general, imports into Ireland pay ten per cent. and exports five per cent. duties.

The manufacture of linen cloth is eaſily learned; it is confined to no one ſoil or territory, for where flax will not grow, it may be brought or imported on reaſonable terms. It is no obſtacle to agriculture; it is the moſt deſirable manufacture that is known; it does not depend on faſhions; it is the leaſt tranſitory, and there muſt ever be a great demand for it. It ſhould not be confined to one province; it ſhould ſpread through every

country, through every diſtrict, and through every pariſh. It is chiefly carried on in the country, and in ſmall villages, not in great towns or cities. There is not a county, or ſcarce any part of Ireland or England, where flax may not be raiſed, and ſome branch of the linen manufacture carried on to advantage. Next to agriculture, it is the beſt of all objects; and even in England it ſhould rank with the woollen trade. No meaſure can tend more to increaſe population, than the promoting a manufacture which may raiſe and ſupport ſo great a number of induſtrious, ſober, and healthful families, in every part of the kingdom. This manufacture and the fiſheries might advance the population of Ireland to an equality with that of Holland. Tillage would be greatly increaſed, and foreign trade extended.

It is not a great many years ago ſince linen yarn was ſent from the Britiſh dominions to be wove in Holland. It was common to ſend cloth to be bleached there; and it is not long ſince the better ſort of the people of this iſland wore Dutch Holland for ſhirts: this is now nearly at an end; yet the value

value of foreign linens, excluſive of Iriſh, imported into England, exceeds that of any other foreign manufactures; it uſed to be computed at one million and an half; it is now about one million, and the whole amount of linen annually brought into England formerly, has been computed at three millions ſterling. It has been already ſhewn, that the exports from Ireland to England of that article, on an average of four years, ending the 25th of March, 1778, amounted to near one million and an half. The amount from Scotland is ſuppoſed to be near half a million. Of theſe, to the value of about 400,000l. was annually re-exported, one half of which is ſaid to be foreign. Thirty years ago, the annual import of foreign linens was 32,230,767 yards, but through the bounty of three halfpence per yard on the exportation of coarſe home-made linen, and the ſubſidy upon all dry goods imported, which included foreign linen, the quantities made at home were ſo much increaſed as to reduce, in nine years, the annual foreign importation near ſeven millions of yards, viz. on a medium of five years, ending Chriſtmas, 1765, it was only 25,550,182

yards. It has been computed, that the linen imported into England might employ and maintain upwards of 250,000 people at home, exclusive of those employed in raising and dressing flax.

It is to be lamented, that the quantity of linen made in England and Ireland for sale, is not ascertained in the same manner as in Scotland. It would be of service in obviating much misrepresentation. It would point out the progress or decline of the manufacture; we should know with more precision the quantity we can furnish; at present we can only form vague conjectures from import and export.

Notwithstanding we hear so little of the linen manufacture of England, it is said to be nearly equal to that of both Ireland and Scotland. It is much, if it is equal in quantity to what is even exported from Ireland. It has been already mentioned that Ireland exported above twenty-five millions of yards in 1782, and last year, viz. 1783, the total quantity of linen stampt for sale in Scotland, was 17,074,777 yards, value 866,983l. 10s.; which

which is, 1,726,033 yards, value 91,885l*. more than the preceding year; and ſince the year 1727, ſhe had increaſed to that amount, from 2,183,975 yards, value 103,312l. 9s. 3d. †. Beſides this, the quantity made for private uſe in Scotland muſt be very conſiderable. The manufacture, undoubtedly, is capable of being improved to a very great degree; of being rendered doubly extenſive, and the import of flax and linen; it is to be hoped, will gradually diminiſh. Some time may paſs before the Britiſh dominions can ſupply themſelves fully with linens; yet if the progreſs of the manufacture ſhould continue equal to what it has been, that period may not be very diſtant.

* The increaſe is ſaid to have ariſen chiefly from an unuſual demand for the coarſe fabric called Oſnaburgs, which is wholly exported to America and the Weſt Indies.

† The medium value of linen exported from Ireland at the ſame period, viz. 1727, was 284,721 l. which is about one fifth of the late exportation of that article: The produce of cattle then exceeded the produce of linen; and although it is now ſo extremely behind, the export has increaſed one third ſince that time.

It is worthy conſideration whether an additional duty on foreign linen might not be adviſeable; it would not only improve the revenue but alſo operate as a bounty to the home manufacture.

It has been thought that bounties on the export linens are only neceſſary to counteract the advantages which the high drawback on foreign linens gave them as a branch of export; and it was ſaid to be timid policy which prevented the annihilation both of drawbacks and bounties. But to refuſe the drawback on the export of foreign linens would be highly miſchievous to our export trade.—We cannot ſupply every ſort of linen that our cuſtomers may want, or as cheap, as ſome countries, and we ſhould not encourage our cuſtomers to ſend directly to thoſe countries, if in the aſſortment of cargoes they will take them from us. If, then, we ſhould not be able to command the more ſubſtantial advantages of being the manufacturers ourſelves, our next object certainly ought to be, that of endeavouring to ſecure the ſupply of the foreign markets with theſe articles, whereby our own merchants will draw the commercial profits

ariſing

ariſing from being the importers and exporters; we ſhould then partake of the carriage, and American and other ſhipping would have leſs occaſion for going to other countries.

The aid that has been given to labour in the cotton manufacture by machinery is not likely to be applied to the linen manufacture in any great degree. The fly-ſhuttle and the flax-mill are the principal aids lately acquired by the latter. The ingenuity of Mr. Arkwright and others has done much for manufactures, but the nature of flax makes it difficult to apply to it the cotton machinery, even to the degree that has been introduced into the woollen manufacture within three or four years, eſpecially in ſpinning and ſcribbling.

The following is the account of linens for three years exported from Ireland into England previous to the laſt war with France.

	Iriſh linen, plain.	Do. checked, or ſtriped.	Do. ſail cloth.
	Yards.	Yards.	Yards.
From Chriſtmas 1774, to Chriſtmas 1775,	21,976,822.	153.	12072.
1776,	20,989,371.	184,	5,867¾,
1777,	21,151,065.		2,788½.

An Account of the total Quantities of Britiſh and Iriſh Linens exported from that Part of Great Britain called England, ſhewing the Bounties paid on each Species, from the 5th of January, 1776, to the 5th of January, 1778, diſtinguiſhing each Year.

		From 5th January 1776, to 5th January, 1777.				From 5th January 1777, to 5th January, 1778.			
		Quantities.	Bounties paid or payable thereon.			Quantities.	Bounties paid or payable thereon.		
		Yards.	£.	s.	d.	Yards.	£.	s.	d.
Britiſh.	Plain, - - - 5 to 6d. per yard, - - - -	670	2	15	10	4347	18	2	3
	Ditto, - - - 6 to 18d. per yard, - - - -	2875905	17974	8	1	3219610	20122	11	3
	Checked, - - 7 to 18d. per yard, - - - -	1671928	3483	3	8	1802402	3755	0	1
	Diaper, - - 6 to 18d. per ſquare yard, - -	6123	38	5	4	9038	56	9	9
	Sheeting, - - 6 to 18d. per ſquare yard, - -	4050	25	6	3	5458	34	2	3
Iriſh.	Plain, - - - 5 to 6d. per yard, - - - -	—	0	0	0	126	0	5	3
	Ditto, - - - 6 to 18d. per yard, - - - -	1324397	8277	9	7	2234940	13968	7	4
	Diaper, - - - 6 to 18d. per ſquare yard, - -	70	0	8	9	955	5	19	4
	Sheeting, - - - 6 to 18d. per ſquare yard, - -	6381	39	17	7	3818	23	17	3
	Total - - -	5889524	29841	15	1	7280694	37984	14	9

An Account of the Quantity of Britiſh and Iriſh Linens exported from England, without Bounty, from the 5th of January, 1776, to the 5th of January, 1778, diſtinguiſhing each Year.

	Britiſh Linens.				Iriſh Linen. Plain.
	Plain.			Checked.	
	Pieces.		Ells.	Ells.	Yards.
From the 5th of January, 1776, to the 5th of January, 1777,	38379	and	25978	44167	76412
From the 5th of January, 1777, to the 5th of January, 1778,	43840	and	3333	41589	141642

Cuſtom Houſe,
London, June 2, 1778.

JOHN TOMKYNS, Aſſiſtant Inſpector General.

The quantity of linen exported from Ireland to every country, excluſive of Great Britain, diſtinguiſhing each country, for the year ending 25th March, 1781.

	Yards.
Eaſt Country - -	29,612
Holland - - -	67,826
Spain and Portugal -	108,215
America - -	288,973
Weſt Indies - -	142,099

The quantity of linen yarn exported the ſame year to Great Britain, was 37,202 Cwt. value 223,215 l.

The quantity of linen exported from Ireland to Great Britain, and the value.

		Linen cloth, plain. Yards.	Value. £.	s.	d.
Years ending 25th March.	1782	24,692,072	1646138	2	8
	1783	15,212,968	1014197	18	0

		Linen, coloured. Yards.	Value. £.	s.	d.
Years ending 25th March.	1782	767	62	6	4½
	1783	——	—	0	0

The

The quantity of linen exported from Ireland to every other country, (exclusive of Great Britain) and the value.

		Linen cloth, plain. Yards.	Value. £.	s.	d.
Years ending 25th March.	1782	278,231	18,548	14	8
	1783	826,737	55,115	16	0

		Linen, coloured. Yards.	Value. £.	s.	d.
Years ending 25th March,	1782	73,655½	5984	9	9
	1783	166,127½	13,151	15	1½

The extraordinary decrease of exportation of linens to Great Britain, in the year ending 25th March, 1783, must principally have arisen from the unsettled state of the country, from the increased exportation of other countries, and from the checks occasioned by the vicissitudes of war; perhaps partly from the market being glutted by the great export of the preceding year; but the next year the quantity increased again. The author has not the Irish account of exports for that year; but the English, which it has been already remarked is not made up to the same period, is as follows;

An

An account of the linen and linen yarn imported into England from Ireland, from the 5th of January, 1782, to 5th January, 1783.

		Yards.
Linen	-	16,194,189
		Lbs.
Linen yarn	-	3,937,726
Iriſh linen entitled to bounty, exported from England in the above year		Yards. 1,087,561
Iriſh linen not entitled to bounty		150,266
	Total	1,237,827

The above quantity exported with and without bounty is nearly the average for ſeveral years paſt.

Linen imported from Ireland into England, from the 5th January, 1783, to 5th January, 1784—20,687,528 yards.

The Table, No. 2, ſhews the demand for linens in America previous to the war, and gives the quantity of Britiſh, Iriſh, and foreign linens,

[To face Page 70.]

No. II.

An Account of the BRITISH and IRISH LINENS and
from GREAT BRITAIN, in the Year 1771; th

	L I N E											
Bed.	BRITISH.			Check.		COTTONS.				Cambricks & Scotch.	Damaſcus.	
	Bounty.	Free.				Britiſh. — Scotch.		Mixed.	Printed.			
	Yards	Pieces.	Yards.	Pieces.	Yards.	Pieces	Yards.	Pieces.	Sq. Yds.	Ps.	Ps.	
70	2349877	28390	277895	7988	201071	388	33309	6420	45027	40	7	

AN ACCOUNT of the FOREIGN LINENS and CALLICOES in
the ſeveral Sorts and Quantities

	L I N E																
CALLICOES.			Cambricks. Demy.	CANVASS.		Excise.	DAMASK.		DIMITY.		DIAPER.				DUCK.		
											RUSSIA.		SILESIA.				
Various.	Printed.	Excise.		Heſſian.	Spruce.		General.	Silesia. Tabling.			Tabl.	Narr.	Tabl.	Napk.			
Pieces.	Sq. Yds.	Pieces.	Pieces.	C. Qrs. Ells	C. Qrs. Ells	Yds.	Ps.	Yds.	Ps.	Yds.	Yds.	Yds.	Yds.	Yds.	Ps.	Yds.	
43214	270151	4800	22135	999 2 10	4486 1 12	1301	229	2629	66	758	275	6194	3684	15313	7103 1 bolt.	161977	21

II.

and COTTONS imported into NORTH AMERICA,
; the ſeveral Sorts and Quantities diſtinguiſhed.

E N S.												
	Damaſcus.	Gauſe.		Handkerchiefs.	IRISH.			Lawns & Scotch.	Napkins.	Printed.	Sail Cloth.	Table Cloths.
					Bounty.	Free.						
	Ps.	Box	Yds.	Doz.	Yards.	P es.	Yards.	Ps.	Doz.	Sq. Yds.	Ells.	Doz.
	7	1	888	2395	2827982	4589	10194	59	12	67793	319428	48

CS imported from BRITAIN into NORTH AMERICA in 1771;
ntities diſtinguiſhed.

E N S.																
	GERMANY.					HOLLAND.		LAWNS, SILESIA.			Aprons, Lawn.	RUSSIA.			Printed.	
	Narrow.		Broad.		Out of Time.			Not whited.	Whited.			Broad.		Drilling.	Narrow.	
	C.	Qrs. Ells	C.	Qrs. Ells	C. Qrs. Ells	Ps.	Yds.	Ps.	Ps.	Yds.	No.	C. Qrs. Ells		C. Qrs. Ells	C. Qrs. Ells	Sq. Yds.
77	21686	3 11	58	0 27	39 2 7	76	1042	5466	5466	25699	281	2386	3 28	553 2 6	430 1 16	145013

linens, cottons, and callicoes, imported there from Great Britain in 1771, diſtinguiſhing the quantities and ſorts.

The following Report of the late Board of Trade is ably drawn up, and conveys much Information relative to the Linen Manufacture:

To the Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Council appointed to conſider the Iriſh Bills.

MY LORDS,

YOUR Lordſhips having been pleaſed, by your order of the 6th inſtant, to refer to us a bill, lately tranſmitted from Ireland, intitled, "An Act for granting Bounties on "the Export of the Linen and Hempen Ma- "nufactures of this Kingdom, therein enu- "merated; and for repealing the Bounties "on Flax Seed imported, and for encourag- "ing the Growth thereof in this Kingdom;" and having required us to report, how far the proviſions of the ſaid bill may affect the linen

linen trade of this kingdom, we forthwith proceeded to take the ſame into our conſideration accordingly.

Finding, however, that it would be neceſſary to ſeek for much information, not contained in any papers tranſmitted to us, we deſired the attendance of ſeveral reſpectable merchants intereſted in the general export trade, and in the linen manufactures of Mancheſter and Scotland, as alſo of ſome principal factors concerned in the imports and exports of Iriſh linens, and of other perſons converſant in the extenſive ſubject before us. In the reſult, we now beg leave to report to your Lordſhips,

That thoſe clauſes in the bill which repeal certain bounties now payable on imported flax ſeed or linſeed, and apply the average annual amount thereof to encourage the growth of flax ſeed and hemp ſeed in Ireland, cannot effect the intereſts of the linen trade of this kingdom, and are, ſo far as bounties may in any caſe be expedient, wiſely and providently applied by theſe new proviſions, to promote the intereſt of the Iriſh linen trade.

The value of flax ſeed annually imported into Ireland was in 1773 eſtimated at from 60,000l. to 80,000l. excluſive of this great expence, it is the evident intereſt of that kingdom to give every reaſonable encouragement to the internal produce of materials on which her ſtaple manufacture depends, and to which her ſoil and climate are peculiarly ſuitable; and the truſting to her foreign importation for the ſupply of flax ſeed is more eſpecially ineligible, as the ſeed ſo imported is ſaid not to be ſo good and ſo certain, as that which is raiſed by the Iriſh culture.

It is conſiſtent with the ſame reaſoning, and equally unconnected with any ſpecial intereſts of our linen trade, that the bill impoſes a duty of ſix pence per gallon on imported linſeed oil, which is chiefly imported from Holland, and applies the produce in aid of the new bounty above mentioned. And here we ſhall take occaſion to obſerve, that ſuch farther duties as are impoſed by the bill for the farther purpoſes therein ſpecified, cannot come within the import of your Lordſhips' general queſtion reſpecting our linen trade; for they conſiſt in an additional charge of five

per cent. on the produce of all impoſt, exciſe, and cuſtoms inwards, except on tobacco, ſugar, hops, and the produce of the Britiſh colonies in America, the Weſt Indies, or the ſettlements in Africa, whereon any duties may be impoſed, or altered, during the preſent ſeſſion of parliament, and except alſo on any Britiſh hops or ſugars.

We preſume, then, that we have done right in confining our attention and inquiries to the remaining proviſions of the bill, by which bounties are given to certain ſpecies of Iriſh linens exported to Africa, America, Spain, Portugal, Gibraltar, and Minorca; and alſo to Iriſh-made ſail cloth exported to any place except Great Britain.

In examining theſe bounties, we found them in moſt reſpects ſimilar to the bounties granted in Great Britain upon the exportation of Britiſh or Iriſh linens. There is ſome ſmall difference with regard to linens of 5d. per yard, which are ſo ſtated in the Iriſh bill, in order to anſwer ours of 5d. Engliſh money, inſtead of being put at 5d. $\frac{5}{12}$, the proportion in Iriſh money; in conſequence of which, the bounty given

given in Ireland is, in a ſlight degree, higher than it is in Great Britain. There is, however, a difference much more material in the bounty on ſail cloth, which, in the Iriſh bill, at 6d. ½, upon every three ells, although in England it is only 1d. per ell. In other particulars we do not obſerve any difference, except in the denomination of money, for the purpoſe of equalizing the ſeveral bounties, reſpectively, to the proportions of what are given in this kingdom.

In taking a review of the laſt-mentioned bounties, which, on the average, are about 12 per cent. in favour of low-priced linens exported, it may not be immaterial to ſtate to your Lordſhips the manner in which the Britiſh bounties have operated in favour of the Iriſh manufacture. The firſt bounties on linen exported took place in 1743, and the export from England, of Iriſh linen, intitled to bounty, was, in

	Yards.
1743 — —	40,907
1753 — —	1,039,967
1763 — —	2,588,564
1773 — —	2,832,246

This increaſe has been aided alſo by accumulated duties on the import of foreign linens into this kingdom, notwithſtanding that ſuch duties are ſaid to have operated to the prejudice of our own woollen trade, by inducing foreign powers to lay reciprocal burdens and reſtrictions on our woollen manufactures. The conſequence, however, has been, with reſpect to the Iriſh ſtaple, that the general import of Iriſh linens has alſo been increaſed very greatly; for, the Iriſh linens imported into London, and the out-ports, were,

	Yards.
In 1743 — —	6,418,375
1773 — —	17,876,617
Increaſe,	11,458,242

That this may be attributed to the ſyſtem of bounties and duties, rather than to the general increaſe of our trade, will ſufficiently appear from the proportionable decreaſe in the import and export of foreign linens, compared at the ſame periods.

Foreign linens imported into London and the out-ports, were,

		Ells.
In 1743	— —	18,584,503
1773	— —	8,954,649
	Decreaſe	9,629,854

Foreign linens exported from London and the out-ports, were,

		Ells.
In 1743	— —	9,894,837
1773	— —	4,385,276
	Decreaſe,	5,509,561

In order to ſhew farther the importance of this conſideration between the two kingdoms, it deſerves remark, that the total value of linen cloth exported from Ireland, was,

		Ells.
In 1741	— —	480,516
1751	— —	751,993
1761	— —	803,258
1771	— —	1,691,787;

and it is eſtimated, that about 7-8ths of that whole export is ſent to Great Britain.

Having obſerved, that our ſyſtem of linen bounties and linen duties, the poſſibility, in many caſes, unexceptionable in the great ſcale of

of commercial policy, has proved an eſſential encouragement to the Iriſh ſtaple, we think it right to add, that it has alſo been the means of forcing forwards an extenſive linen manufacture in this kingdom, though ſtruggling under a great diſadvantage as to the growth and ſupply of the raw material.

The export of Britiſh linen, intitled to bounty, was,

	Yards.
In 1743 — —	52,779
1753 — —	641,510
1763 — —	2,308,310
1773 — —	5,235,266

The increaſe in the exports of Britiſh and Iriſh linens, not intitled to bounty, has, during the periods above mentioned, been nearly as great in value, though not in quantity; and has been much promoted by the duties on foreign linens, which, when exported, leave behind a certain part of the duties paid on importation, and are ſubject to other cuſtomhouſe charges; ſo that, before they can be reſhipped, there is a diſadvantage againſt the foreign manufacturer, equivalent from 5 to 6 per cent.

On

On theſe facts your Lordſhips will obſerve, that England is the principal market for Iriſh linens, to the annual amount in value of more than one million ſterling; and that ſo large a ſum is paid by this kingdom, not ſo much for export, as for her own internal conſumption, at leaſt 4-5ths of the whole quantity of imported Iriſh linens, and thoſe of the higheſt price, being conſumed in England. The other 1-5th only is exported; your Lordſhips will ſee, then, that Ireland has a ſolid and permanent market for her linen at preſent, whence ſhe draws ſpeedy and certain payments, and is thereby enabled to make large returns. And, conſequently, the export of the 1-5th to the places ſpecified in the bill, and the reſulting advantages of that export, in a general extention of trade, muſt be the object of the preſent bill. The tracing how this may operate in Ireland, will beſt lead us to the probable effects of the meaſure on the linen trade of this kingdom, and thereby enable us to throw ſome light on your Lordſhips' inquiry.

From a compariſon of what has been ſtated to us by different gentlemen, whoſe evidence we have taken, it does not appear, that the average expence of freight, commiſſion, warehouſing

houſing, wharfage, and other incidents attending the import of Iriſh linen into Britiſh ports, in order to its export from thence, ought to be eſtimated at leſs than 5 ½ per cent. The bounties, therefore, being equalized in the two kingdoms, Ireland will be able to export this article, under the new opening given to her trade, to an advantage over the Engliſh exporter, equal to 5 ½ per cent.

This advantage will, for a certain period, be much counterbalanced by the long credits which will be neceſſary in the markets to which ſhe muſt go; by the uncertain returns from thoſe markets; by the difficulties of ſuddenly diverting any trade from its accuſtomed channel; and alſo by the inability of the Iriſh merchants to ſend full and well-aſſorted cargoes, ſuch as are ſent from England, and which include India goods, foreign linens, and the various articles of manufacture to be collected from Mancheſter, Birmingham, Sheffield, Norwich, and elſewhere. All theſe embarraſſments are likely to bear hard on the firſt adventurers; but means of palliating theſe will gradually be found; and it muſt be expected, that an exiſting operative advantage, in favour

of

of any branch of trade, will ultimately effectuate its eſtabliſhment.

Under theſe conſiderations we ſee, with ſome regret, an experiment tending to interrupt and hazard a great branch of commercial intercourſe between the two countries, which has been highly and reciprocally advantageous. We are convinced, too, that this new ſpeculalation, ſo far as it ſucceeds, will operate to the diminution of our export trade, to the diminution alſo, of the returns for that trade; and conſequently to the prejudice of our navigation, and of the commercial intereſts in general; but we cannot think that ſuch miſchiefs are ſuddenly to be expected to any conſiderable extent.

If, however, contrary to theſe reaſonings, ſuch a revulſion of trade ſhould take place, it may be well to have foreſeen and conſidered how far Great Britain would have ſome remedy within her own reach. The foreign manufacturers, notwithſtanding the diſadvantages under which they labour by the operation of our bounties and duties, which amount, in their average effect, to near 15 per cent. have

been able to preſerve ſome degree of competition, eſpecially in the fine linens; a ſmall reduction therefore in thoſe duties would, in the event ſuppoſed, enable this kingdom to ſupply herſelf with linens as cheap as ever, and with advantage to the revenue. It might probably, too, obtain in return a larger conſumption of woollen manufactures and other goods upon the continent of Europe.

If, however, the firſt effect of the bill in queſtion ſhould tend to raiſe the price of the Iriſh linen, which it probably may, and which we are aſſured has already happened in ſome degree, it may be expected, that a larger importation of foreign linens will at once take place without any lowering the duties and this will more particularly happen in the inſtance of foreign linens imported for home conſumption, if, by the direct export of low-priced linens from Ireland, the Iriſh drapers ſhould no longer be able to make ſuitable aſſortments for the Engliſh market.

The conſequence would be, that the import of Iriſh linens in general would be conſiderably diminiſhed, and thoſe concerned in the fine

fine branch of the manufacture would ſuffer in their buſineſs. Another conſequence would be, if it ſhould be thought expedient to continue the bounties, as at preſent, that the demand from the Britiſh manufactures increaſing much, their produce would alſo increaſe in proportion; for it deſerves remark, that, though this kingdom carries on her linen trade, ſubject to great and irremovable diſadvantages, ſhe is ſuppoſed at preſent to manufacture more linens than are exported from Ireland, and is therefore in that improved ſtate of the buſineſs, which can furniſh a quick ſupply to any ſudden deficiency or increaſed demand.

Upon the whole view of the meaſure before us, we are not called upon to form an opinion, how far its ſudden adoption, though favourable to the intereſts of the Dublin factors, and calculated to accelerate and extend the benefits of the North-America and Weſt-India commerce now open to Ireland, is likely to promote the increaſe and ſecurity of the Iriſh ſtaple manufacture. With reſpect to the operations of that meaſure on the linen trade of this kingdom, it is neceſſary to advert to the

ſtate both of our exports and of our manufactures; and, with regard to the firſt, we ſubmit to your Lordſhips, that, as far as the direct export of linen from Ireland may take place in conſequence of the bounty now propoſed by Ireland, in ſo much will our exports be affected, and the detriment reſulting to our general trade from that circumſtance, will be increaſed by the returns made for ſuch exports, and by all the collateral conſequences of a proportionable transfer of our navigation and general commerce to the ports of Ireland. With reſpect however to the operation on our linen manufactures, we think them much more likely to be promoted than injured by it; and we truſt, for the reaſons which we have already detailed to your Lordſhips, that the latter effect may be expected from this bill, and that the former will not ſpeedily take place to any conſiderable extent.

We ought, before we cloſe this Report, to take notice of that part of the bill which extends the bounty to the exported checked linens, of which our annual exportation from London, and the out-ports, is at preſent to the amount of 120,000l. This valuable

branch of trade, which is chiefly ſupplied at preſent by Mancheſter, is certainly liable to be affected by the bounty now propoſed in Ireland—it has hitherto been ſupported by the vigor and enterpriſing ſpirit of our manufacturers, though under the diſadvantage of either purchaſing the raw material from Ireland, where it is ſubject to a duty upon exportation, or from Embden, Hamburgh, and other places, where it is ſold at a high price. It is eaſy however to foreſee, that Ireland, having the material and the export, muſt gradually and ultimately have gained ground in this branch of trade, even without the bounty; and yet with that advantage it may be doubted whether ſhe will ſuddenly ſurmount the various embarraſſments, which ſhe has to encounter, and which we have already deſcribed to your Lordſhips.

We are, My Lords,
Your Lordſhips
Moſt obedient and
Moſt humble ſervants,
CARLISLE.
C. F. GREVILLE.
Wm. EDEN.
Andw. STUART.
E. GIBBON.

Whitehall
July 17, 1780.

PRO-

PRODUCE OF CATTLE.

This, undoubtedly, ſhould be rated as the ſecond great article of Iriſh commerce, and unleſs improper advantages are given to the American States, Ireland muſt profit very much, particularly by the articles beef and butter.

The preſent relaxation of the navigation laws by the proclamations, is likely to prove exremely prejudicial to Ireland, eſpecially as the continuance of it may, at length, form a precedent, which afterwards will be conſidered as a principle. The colonial ſyſtem of navigation laws, very properly gives the ſupply of the plantations and colonies to the Britiſh dominions alone. The ſuffering the produce of the American States to go to our ſettlements, has already prejudiced Ireland, and encouraged the proviſion trade of the American States: the latter has exceeded expectation as to quality, and unleſs that juſtice ſhall be done to the Britiſh dominions, to which the navigation laws entitle them, they will almoſt entirely loſe the proviſion trade

trade in a ſhort time. Not only that right ſhould be aſſured to them, but immediate attention ſhould be paid to the ſalt iſlands, which, ſince the ſeparation of the colonies, are become objects of importance, although hitherto little noticed. Proper attention and regulations relative to them may give great advantage to the fiſheries, as well as to the proviſion trade. The American States take an immenſe quantity of ſalt from thoſe iſlands, and employ a great number of veſſels in the trade; the ſalt of Turk's Iſland, Saltatudas, and Bahamas, is ſaid to be ſtronger* and ſuperior to Liſbon, Spaniſh, or any European ſalt; and that it cures not only fiſh, but pork and butter, and all ſubſtances that are of an oily nature, more perfectly. It would anſwer to the American States to pay two pence or three pence per buſhel duty, rather than to go elſewhere; the duty would amply pay the expence of the frigates or ſloops that it might be neceſſary to ſtation at thoſe iſlands, it would give an

* Salt made by the heat of the ſun is ſaid to be ſtronger than that made by fire, and in proportion to the heat and dryneſs of the climate.

important

important advantage to the Britiſh dominions, an advantage *now* eaſily to be eſtabliſhed.

At this moment a plan is in agitation, to admit the flour, live proviſions, &c. of the American States into Newfoundland, and to give the ſupply of our fiſheries to them. The apparent object in this caſe is not of ſo much conſequence as the precedent to be eſtabliſhed by it; and if the new ſtate of things made it neceſſary to declare the law, inſtead of this dangerous indulgence, the opportunity ſhould have been taken of eſtabliſhing a general principle. It is aſtoniſhing that the propoſition ſhould be liſtened to; it is moſt ſtrongly againſt the ſpirit of the trade laws; it proves that there is neither ſyſtem nor principle on which men act. Miniſters will take liberties with the people of England; but it is certain that the people of Ireland will refuſe the monopoly of their markets to the Britiſh plantations, if they are deprived of their ſhare of the monopoly of the plantation markets. Ireland has lately increaſed her trade to Newfoundland, and it is likely to increaſe to a great extent; but this new ſyſtem tends to undo her there, and eſtab-

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liſh ſmuggling moſt completely, which flouriſhes by far too much already.

Waterford and Youghall will be eſſentially hurt; but it is not Britain and Ireland only that will ſuffer, the province of Quebec will be ruined if the ſyſtem ſhould continue. When the American States fulfill the treaty, and the poſts on the lakes are given up, that province will loſe three fourths, or at leaſt two thirds, of the fur trade, and her recourſe muſt be to the corn and proviſion trade. Her export of corn, previous to the diſturbances in America, conſidering ſhe had exported little before 1771, was immenſe, and proves how capable ſhe alone may become to ſupply not only the Britiſh fiſheries, but alſo the Britiſh Weſt Indies. In 1774, ſhe exported nearly equal to the conſumption of the latter. It is to be obſerved, the river St. Laurence is open in the month of May before the fiſhery begins.

The hopes and expectations of the provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunſwick, will alſo be blaſted; they muſt principally depend hereafter on the fiſheries and proviſion

trade. The ſyſtem, if carried to any extent, would deprive the remaining colonies of thoſe advantages which alone can make it their intereſt to adhere to the Britiſh empire. An accidental ſcarcity of corn or proviſions ſo immediately after a deſtructive war, and before the provinces could poſſibly recover their calamities, or ſettle, or in conſequence of a very unfavourable ſeaſon, is ſurely an inſufficient pretext for the propoſition alluded to; but when a good ſyſtem is formed, and the merchants know on what they may depend, the ſupply of the colonies will be regular and certain. The exportation of corn from Quebec, during the war, was prohibited by the government of that province. The war, the public ſervices, the corvees, and in ſome degree the apprehenſion that there would not be a ſufficient demand at home, prevented the cultivation of the land. The addition of 15,000 troops, Loyaliſts and Indians, to the people of Quebec, however, increaſed the demand at home; and it muſt not now be brought as an argument, that the Newfoundland fiſheries did not receive their full ſupply of flour or proviſions from the province of Quebec. Even circumſtanced as ſhe was, ſhe latterly

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ſent ſome flour and biſcuit to Newfoundland, St. John's, and Nova Scotia. A very extraordinary rainy ſeaſon, and early froſt, after a great part of the crop was cut down in 1783, occaſioned the ſcarcity in 1784; but all accounts agree, that the crop of 1784 is very abundant, equal to any that has been known in that country, and fully ſufficient to ſupply not only the fiſheries, but alſo the remaining colonies, eſpecially when we conſider the quantity of land cultivated by new ſettlers at Cataraqui, and other parts of the St. Laurence, at Chaleur bay, and the neighbourhood of Lake Champlain, through which, and the river St. Laurence, the produce of the Vermonteſe State muſt paſs.

It is obvious that other plantations will think themſelves better entitled to the indulgence in queſtion, and will aſſert their claim. To talk of the admiſſion of flour and live ſtock from the American States into Newfoundland, as an encouragement to the fiſheries, is ridiculous. The five or ſix hundred veſſels, from one hundred to two hundred and fifty tons that go to that fiſhery, generally carry out as much or more provi-

ſions than they conſume. The fiſhermen live on fiſh and fat pork, of which, with hard biſcuit, they make a diſh that is preferred by them to freſh proviſions; neither the bank fiſhing, nor the in-ſhore, or boat fiſhing, will admit of any other but ſalt proviſions. We ſhould not, then, take ſteps to encourage permanent ſettlements at Newfoundland. It is farther to be obſerved, that the whole annual conſumption of flour by our people on that iſland, does not, in value, exceed eight or nine thouſand pounds prime coſt at the moſt, which the bill ſuppoſes Britain, Ireland, and the remaining colonies, cannot ſupply. As to freſh proviſions, there is little demand, except for officers and a few others; and in the proſperous year 1770, the whole import from all America of live cattle, was one hundred and fifteen; carcaſſes twenty four; ſheep, one thouſand and twenty; poultry, fifteen dozen; and of flour and biſcuit, ſix hundred and ſeventy-ſeven tons, value thirteen ſhillings per cwt. Moſt aſſuredly more New-England rum, and contraband articles, will be ſmuggled, by means of this indulgence, from the American States to Newfoundland

ſoundland, than live proviſions and flour, will be imported. This miſchievous precedent ſhould not be allowed to Newfoundland in particular. The ſhipping that go there are not half laden; they ſhould carry with them what is wanted for themſelves and the iſland, by which ſome money will be ſaved to this country; at leaſt it ſhould have no competitors in that ſupply except the remaining colonies; and thoſe employed in the fiſheries, ſhould be well content to give the advantage to that country, which, by great bounties and encouragements, enables them to carry on their buſineſs. In addition to the above, the general objections to the promoting intercourſe between our colonies and the American States will occur; that it is contrary to the true ſpirit of all colonial regulations, for the advantage of the mother country and the appertaining dominions; that it infallibly promotes the ſmuggling of New-England rum; and that a great loſs of ſeamen, on our part, will be a certain conſequence.

The excellent ſyſtem which was eſtabliſhed in King William's reign, and which was ſo well

well underſtood by ſome who have commanded on the Newfoundland ſtation, ſhould not be forgoten or neglected. The maſters of veſſels were obliged, under penalties, to bring back the men, or as many as they carried out with them, and every ſtep was taken to prevent their ſettling there. The paſſing the Atlantic twice every year; at the ſame time that hardy and excellent ſeamen were raiſed, gave this country an opportunity of availing herſelf of their ſervices in caſes of neceſſity, on their going out in ſpring, and return in autumn.

But, to reſume; the proviſion trade is infinitely more advantageous to Ireland than ſeems generally to be imagined; and there cannot be worſe policy than her exportation of live cattle. On the contrary, ſhe ſhould ſlaughter her own cattle, and cure the beef for exportation: it is as much a manufacture as linens; although the management of the beef, the hides, the tallow, &c. may not, perhaps, employ, proportionably, quite ſo many hands as flax. The turning too much land to the raiſing of cattle, under a bad ſyſtem of huſbandry, might tend to depopulate, but there

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is no danger of that kind in the preſent thriving ſtate of Ireland. The proviſion trade is ſaid to be, in ſome degree, uncertain; but that aſſertion requires examination; and it would ſurely be imprudent for Ireland, on mere ſurmiſe, to decreaſe her quantity of cattle, when butter, cheeſe, &c. &c. have yielded ſuch large returns *. Agriculture is concerned in raiſing and feeding cattle, and tillage is not prevented in the degree that is often imagined by maintaining thoſe neceſſary animals. One thouſand acres, of which a due proportion is tilled, will maintain, under good management, by artificial graſſes, turnips, &c. more cattle than an equal quantity of paſture land. Proviſions are a natural ſtaple article of commerce for Ireland; her climate is better adapted to it than any other; her cattle can remain longer in the field, and her beef can be cured a greater part of the year than elſewhere, from the temperature of her ſeaſons, neither froſt nor heat interrupting that buſineſs for a long continuance.

* The gateage, or one penny per head on all cattle entering the gates of Cork, amounts to 600l. yearly, that is, on 144,000 head.

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That the proviſion trade has been particularly unequal, does not appear from the imports and exports, its fluctuations have been imputed to peace and war, and it is ſuppoſed that it declines in peace: on the contrary, from the following average of the export, for five years of peace, and alſo for five years of war, it appears that the peace export of beef, butter, cheeſe, &c. exceeds the war export. It ſhould be obſerved, that the proviſions taken on board ſhips of war and tranſports in Ireland, are not included. In 1778, the export of beef from thence, on account of the troops, was, -- -- 13,206 barrels,

Butter 8,701 cwt.

which is not half ſufficient to make up the difference. The great increaſe in the exportation of pork did not ariſe merely from the war. The quantity of hogs raiſed of late years in Ireland, has been much greater than formerly; and the import of pork from Ireland into England alone, in the year ending 5th Jan. 1783, was 45,995 barrels, which exceeds the whole export of pork from Ireland twenty years ago. Conſidering that Ireland is ſo great a dairy country, it is extraordinary there was not a greater abundance of ſwine ſooner. It

may

may however be remarked, that the butter-milk of Ireland is much better than that of England, and is there the food of man.

The average of five years, ending 25 March, 1774, of the following articles exported from Ireland:

Beef	barrels --	202,559		
	carcaſes --	68		
Butter, cwt. --		266,481	3	22
Cheeſe, cwt. --		2,179	1	0
Candles, cwt. --		2,107	3	19
Tallow, cwt. --		44,270	3	27
Hides	tanned, No.	46,795		
	untanned, No.	84,227		
Bullocks and cows --		1,088		
Bacon, flitches, No. --		14,354		
Hogs, No. -- --		319		
Hogs lard, cwt. --		2,105	1	25
Pork, barrels, --		46,924		

The average of five years, ending 25th March, 1782:

Beef	barrels --	172,690		
	carcaſes --	21		
Butter, cwt. --		24,5683	1	21
Cheeſe, cwt. --		1,374	3	15
Candles, cwt. --		4,524	3	12

Tallow, cwt. --		42,476	1	16
Hides	tanned, No.	11,973		
	ditto, cwt. --	35	3	24
	untanned, No.	63,547		
Bullocks and cows, No.		2,993		
Hams, cwt. ---		317	1	21
Bacon, flitches, No. --		5,983		
Hogs, No. -- -		280		
Hogs lard, cwt. -- --		3,392	2	26½
Pork, barrels -- --		87,085		

Twenty years ago, and immediately following the former war, the export of beef and alſo of butter, was nearly the ſame as the above peace average: and about ſixty years ago the average export of beef was nearly two thirds of the late exportation, viz. 135,270 barrels; and of butter the ſame, viz. 161,123 cwt. which proves that tillage and population have not decreaſed the quantity of cattle in Ireland.

The late arret concerning the commercial intercourſe allowed to foreigners with the French Weſt Indies, appears to give the ſame advantages to the Britiſh European and American dominions, as it does to the American ſtates. Although dated the 30th Auguſt, 1784, it

it was not publiſhed till the 30th November following. It ſeems to grant greater advantages and to open the French iſlands more to ſtrangers than any former arret; but it permits in fact little more than was allowed, though not always publicly, before the war, except, that certain European articles may now go directly there, without paſſing through the medium of the ports of France. All the ſea-ports of that kingdom are remonſtrating moſt vigouroufly againſt it; and when the court of Verſailles perceives the prejudice that will be done to the marine of France, attention will be paid to the complaints of the merchants. However a conſiderable preference is reſerved to the French ſhipping and fiſheries. The advantages given to the American ſtates by France have been ſo much miſrepreſented and exaggerated that the principal articles of the arret will be inſerted in a note*, eſpecially as

* ARRET du Conſeil d'Etat du ROI, concernant le Commerce étranger dans les iſles Françoiſes de l'Amerique, du 30 Août, 1784.

ARTICLE PREMIER.

L'ENTREPOT ci-devant aſſigné au Carénage de Sainte-Lucie, ſera maintenu pour ladite iſle ſeulement, &

the ſame advantages are given by it to the Britiſh dominions.

This

& il en ſera établi trois nouveaux aux Iſles du Vent; ſavoir, un à Saint-Pierre pour la Martinique, un à la Pointe-à-Pitre pour la Guadeloupe & dépendances, un à Scarboroug pour Tabago. Il en ſera pareillement ouvert trois pour Saint-Domingue, ſavoir, un au Cap François, un au Port-au-Prince, un aux Cayes Saint Louis: celui qui exiſte au Mole Saint-Nicholas dans la même colonie, ſera & demeurera ſupprimé.

II.

Permet ſa Majeſté, par proviſion & juſqu'à ce qu'il lui plaiſe d'en ordonner autrement, aux navires étrangers, du port de ſoixante tonneaux au moins, uniquement chargés de bois de toute eſpèce, même de bois de teinture, de charbon de terre, d'animaux beſtiaux vivans de toute nature, de ſalaiſons de bœufs & non de porcs, de morue & poiſſon ſalés, de riz, mais, légumes, de cuirs verds en poil ou tannés, de pelleteries, de réſines & goudron, d'aller dans les ſeuls ports d'entrepôt déſignés par l'article précédent, & d'y décharger & commercer leſdites marchandiſes.

III.

Il ſera permis aux navires étrangers qui iront dans les ports d'entrepôt, ſoit pour y porter les marchandiſes permiſes par l'article II, ſoit à vide, d'y charger pour l'étranger, uniquement des ſirops & taffias, & des marchandiſes venues de France.

Toutes

This ſubject brings to recollection a curious publication of laſt ſummer, entitled, "A "State

IV.

TOUTES les marchandiſes dont l'importation & l'exportation ſont permiſes à l'étranger dans leſdits ports d'entrepôt, ſeront ſoumiſes aux droits locaux, établis ou a établir dans chaque colonie, & payeront en outre un pour cent de leur valeur.

V.

INDEPENDAMMENT du droit d'un pour cent, porté en l'article ci-deſſus, les bœufs ſalés, la morue & le poiſſon ſalés, payeront trois livres par quintal; & ſera le produit dudit droit de trois livres, converti en primes d'encouragement pour l'introduction de la morue & du poiſſon ſalés, provenans de la pêche Françoiſe.

VI.

LES chairs ſalés étrangères qui ſeront introduites dans les colonies par des bâtimens François, expédiés directement des ports du royaume, ne ſeront point aſſujetties au payement des droits mentionnés dans les deux articles précédens.

VII.

IL ſera établi dans chaque port d'entrepôt un nombre ſuffiſant de commis, pour veiller à ce qu'il ne ſoit introduit ni exporté d'autres marchandiſes que celles que ſont ſpécifiées dans les articles II. & III. du preſent arrêt; & afin qu'il ne reſte aucun ſoupçon d'inexactitude dans cette ſurveillance, autoriſe ſa Majeſté les négocians François

"State of the Allegations and Evidence pro-"duced, and Opinions of Merchants and "Others, given to the Committee of Coun-"cil." The preſumption with which the report of that very reſpectable Committee has been treated, was reſerved for theſe times; that Committee was not to be tampered with. A great deſire was expreſſed not only by the Public, but in Parliament, for the publication of that Report. After it had been agreed, that it ſhould be printed for the members, the Houſe was told, that it

çois réſidans dans chacun deſdits ports d'entrepôt, ainſi que les Capitaines de navires qui pouront s'y trouver, à nommer reſpectivement entr'eux des Commiſſaires, leſquels ſeront chargés de dénoncer les négligences ou abus qu'ils pourroient reconnoître, & aſſiſteront, lorſqu'ils l'eſtimeront convenable, à toutes les viſites qui auront lieu, ſoit à l'arrivée, ſoit au départ des navires étrangers.

Theſe articles do not ſeem calculated by any means to encourage foreign veſſels to go to the French free ports in the Weſt-Indies; and the laſt of the above articles ſeems to put foreigners in the power of the French merchants and French maſters of ſhips.

There are twelve other articles which regulate the entry of the foreign veſſels, &c.

would

would be improper, on account of individuals, to give more than extracts; undoubtedly, in ſome inſtances, it was proper to withhold names, and that would have been ſufficient, or all the names might have been withheld; but at the end of two months, the above extraordinary performance appeared. It is little worth while now to analiſe, or mark what it is, but the French arrêt reminds us of the following aſſertion contained in that publication, which could not be accidentally inſerted; it was intended to have great weight, viz. *that permiſſion is given to the veſſels of the American States, to load with the produce of the French iſlands without any limitation*; this moſt certainly is not true. It is not difficult to diſcover for what purpoſe it was calculated; but, nevertheleſs, the publication fabricated, and in the occult manner that it has been, ſufficiently proves, that to open the Britiſh Weſt Indies to the American States, not only is unneceſſary, but would be extremely miſchievous.

Not merely the proviſion trade is greatly prejudiced, but the commerce and marine of the Britiſh dominions are likely to be eſſentially

tially impaired, through the encouragement which is given to infractions and ſuſpenſions of the navigation laws by the unprincipled or unſyſtematic proceedings of Adminiſtration. It would require a volume to ſtate to the public the abuſes communicated to the writer of theſe Obſervations, relative to the regiſtering of ſhipping, not only in the Weſt Indies, where there is ſcarce an attempt at concealment, and in Ireland, but alſo in Great Britain. A few pieces of money will immediately convert an American into a Britiſh-built ſhip; and a certificate may be got in Britain, in Ireland, and the Britiſh Weſt Indies, for a ſhip now building at Philadelphia. It is abſolutely neceſſary to the ſalvation of the moſt eſſential of all manufactures, namely, ſhip building, that the abuſe be ſtopt; and ſurely it is time that our Miniſters ſhould underſtand the neceſſity of it. The greatneſs of the abuſe leads us to inquire into the neceſſity of permitting other certificates or regiſters to be given in the diſtant ſettlements, at leaſt to veſſels trading with the Britiſh European dominions, except ſuch as may be ſometimes neceſſary to bring a veſſel home. Without preſuming to propoſe

poſe the proper checks to the evil, it is greatly to be wiſhed ſome meaſures may be adopted for that purpoſe.

The late infraction of the navigation laws, by the opening the ports of Jamaica for four months to all the ſhipping of the American States *, and in effect, to every good or bad manufacture or produce of Europe and America, and juſt at the time that the legiſlature of Great Britain had refuſed to adopt ſuch a ruinous principle, ſurely deſerves a public inquiry.

It was by no means neceſſary to open the ports; the hurricane which had happened was by no means general over the iſland; nor had it ſpread far into the country; or if it had, was the ſtep which was taken proper. It was to be expected that advantage would be taken of the calamity for the moment; but that could not laſt long, neither did it, there was Britiſh ſhipping abundantly employed in the trade, and fully ſufficient to ſupply every thing that might be wanting.

* It has been extended to ſix weeks longer.

The commerce and marine of Great Britain muſt not depend on the wiſdom or intereſt of plantation governors, or, rather, of thoſe that ſurround them. Our merchants do not know how to act; they do not know, they cannot gueſs, what it is now worth while to ſend: common prudence will direct them to ſend nothing. The Britiſh merchants meet ſufficient checks and difficulties, without this additional ſporting with their profeſſion and fortunes; if there is to be no commercial ſyſtem, it muſt be their reſource to retire to ſome village, where they will only ſuffer equally with the reſt of the inhabitants.

The proviſion trade, which is now the ſubject of inquiry, muſt have received a ſevere blow. It was apprehended that the proviſions which were preparing, if ſent, would go to an overſtocked, at leaſt to an unſteady or uncertain, market; but it appears that the meaſure of a partial, or temporary and occaſional, opening of the ports to the American States, has, in reality, produced a ſcarcity; and that the ſame effect may be expected in Newfoundland. The merchants

chants in theſe kingdoms keep back the export of proviſions, becauſe they ſuppoſe that the market will be overſtocked from the American continent, and thoſe of the American States are equally apprehenſive, becauſe they ſuppoſe it may be glutted from hence. Many of the moſt reſpectable planters reprobate the meaſure; they foreſaw the conſequences; and letters from Jamaica mention, that ſhortly after the hurricane, a great number of Britiſh veſſels arrived with proviſions, and articles of all kinds, which were ſold as cheap as at any time. Shortly after, lumber was ſold there very conſiderably below the price at Philadelphia. The Britiſh veſſels finding the trade was laid open, gave it up. The lumber was bought up at a low price; it was ſoon raiſed, and was retailed at a high price; and the Americans have now raiſed lumber and other articles very much. The manufacturers of theſe kingdoms will obſerve, that, with lumber and proviſions, all ſorts of manufactures will be introduced in the ſhipping of the American States; and as the Americans do not pay for them, they may be afforded very cheap indeed. This digreſſion

may be excuſed, becauſe the ſubject is highly intereſting.

Beſides beef and butter, there is other very valuable produce from cattle, ſuch as tallow, hides, &c.; and when Ireland thinks proper to quit her unprofitable purſuits, ſhe will, if ſhe is wiſe, greatly extend her trade in the manufactures of leather, eſpecially to America and the Weſt Indies. At the time that the minds of her people are employed in unavailing or hurtful ſpeculations, ſhe is ſuffering an exportation that is extremely prejudicial. The quantity of live cattle ſhe has ſent to Britain within ſeven or eight months is prodigious. Perhaps when a temporary ſcarcity of cattle ſhall have raiſed the price greatly, and they cannot be got for the better purpoſe of barrelling for exportation, and hides alſo ſhall be ſcarce, theſe circumſtances will ſerve for additional declamation on ruined trade and in favour of non-importation agreements and reform. It is not only bad policy to ſend out live cattle, but alſo hides tanned or untanned. It is obvious that the manufacture of all materials ſhould be carried as many ſtages as poſſible. Hitherto Ireland has

exported an inconſiderable quantity of wrought leather. Her exports of ſhoes to all parts, in the year ending the 25th of March, 1783, was only 14,803lb.* all of which went to America and the Weſt Indies, except 224 lbs. to Denmark and Norway, 1436 lbs. to Portugal, and 448 lbs. to the Straits. And of ſadlers' ware ſhe exported only to the value of 98l. 6s. The tanned hides exported to all parts the ſame year was 10,488 in number, and 73 cwt. of which nine tenths went to Italy and the Straits. Untanned hides to all parts, 58,079 in number, of which 50,204 went to England, and 4585 to Scotland. Calves ſkins 22,510 dozen, almoſt the whole of them to England and Scotland. It is known that great frauds are committed in the entry of hides, and eſpecially of calves' ſkins outwards; there is a duty on the export; and it is certain that the quantity exported exceeds greatly the quantity entered in the Cuſtom-houſe books. It is remarkable that in the ſame year, Ireland imported 284 cwt. of ſheep

* And in 1773 ſhe exported only 48 lbs. to all parts, and in 1777 ſhe exported none. England exported, on an average of years ending with 1774, 443,899 lbs. of wrought leather.

ſkins

ſkins entirely from Britain, except 72 cwt. from France, and 25 cwt. from Flanders.

The ſcarcity of bark in Ireland gives England an advantage over her in the tanning buſineſs. She imported in the year ending 25th March, 1785, 90,836 barrels, all from Britain, except 1406 barrels from Germany, and 10 barrels from Denmark and Norway.

Abſtract of bullocks ſold at Ballinaſloe fair in the following years, which ſeems to prove an increaſe of cattle.

BULLOCKS.

	Sold.	Unſold	Total.
1771 Oct.	10,876	———	10,876
1772 —	12,346	257	12,603
1773 —	9,764	469	10,233
1774 —	9,328	263	9591
1775 —	10,201	113	10,314
1776 —	9,635	4475	14,110
1777 —	9,646	1815	11,461
1778 —	7,920	4448	12,368

N. B. The failure in 1778 aroſe from the ſtagnation of credit.

FISH-

FISHERIES.

Notwithſtanding the preſent inſignificant ſtate of the Iriſh fiſheries, it may reaſonably be expected that in due time they will, among articles of trade, rank, at leaſt, third in point of national profit, and immediately follow the linen and proviſion trade. In point of general advantage, they might, perhaps, rank firſt, by the great extenſion they may cauſe of the navigation of Ireland.

At preſent Ireland comparatively with her neighbours, and conſidering her ſituation and advantages, has very little ſhipping: part at leaſt of her anxious care for the woollen manufactures might be well transferred to this branch of trade, which has never yet been made an object of her attention; and the opinion that ſhe can never build as cheap as her neighbours was as ill founded as the other vulgar errors which we daily hear. In moſt places of England and Holland, where the buſineſs of ſhipbuilding is carried on to great advantage, the timber is imported, and alſo the naval ſtores and ſhip chandlery. When once embarked, it

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is of little moment whether thoſe articles are carried coaſt ways or a few leagues farther acroſs the ſea. Oak timber, naval ſtores, and ſhip chandlery, on an average, ought to be as cheap in Ireland as in Britain or Holland; and the injudicious and much higher duties on fir timber imported into Britain, of which vaſt quantities are uſed in ſhip building muſt give ſome advantages to Ireland, where the duties are ſo much lower.*

The

* As Ireland does not produce at preſent, and is not likely, for a long time, to afford a quantity worth notice of any kind of timber for ſhip building, the policy of laying duties on ſuch timber does not appear; but as England produces a large quantity of the beſt oak timber, it may be expedient to maintain the duties on that article coming from foreign countries, leſt the growth ſhould be diſcouraged at home. Even while the duties exiſt, the growth is much diſcouraged by the diſtance of the profit. The advantage to be derived at the end of almoſt a century, is not very inviting. In the mean time, ſome expence is incurred in maintaining the woods; in many parts, however, the underwood yields a conſiderable profit where the timber is not thick. Scattered trees, or thoſe that grow in hedge rows, are by no means clear gains, for they are detrimental to agriculture; yet, in the end, oak timber is very profitable, eſpecially in good land. It may be anſwered, where-

ever

The eſtabliſhment of the fiſheries of Ireland will, of courſe, promote ſhip building, and greatly extend navigation, which will open new markets. Her manufactures will be carried cheaper, and in a manner forced into countries where they now either do not go, or go under diſadvantages; for nothing can be more certain than that thoſe nations which have much of the carrying trade, derive many benefits from it, more than the profit of freight*, which, how-

ever it grows well, other things will alſo grow well, producing a preſent profit; where, however, an immediate income is not wanted, it pays better in the end than any other produce. The no ſmall recommendation of a timbered country is, that it in a manner imperceptibly enriches the owner, and often ſaves an eſtate from ſale. On the whole, it may be doubted whether it would be expedient to admit, without duties, ſuch timber as we can grow, leſt, in the end, we ſhould become entirely dependant on foreign countries for ſhip timber, and be reduced to a mode of ſupply both precarious and expenſive. If it ſhould be eaſy, on the importation of other kinds of timber, to diſcriminate between that which is uſed for ſhip building, or for other uſes, it might be adviſable to remove the duties entirely from the former, or at leaſt to reduce them.

* Even thoſe that are jealous of Iriſh manufactures, ſhould not be equally ſo of the increaſe of Iriſh ſhip-

however it is very conſiderable. It is needleſs to ſtate the number of artificers employed in ſhip-building, and the many trades dependent on it; but the fiſheries are the firſt and beſt foundation of a marine. It is the firſt ſtage; and if the country does not furniſh freight for a quantity of ſhipping, the fiſheries will help to provide it for them.

Ireland has advantages in the ſeveral fiſheries which no other country in Europe has, particularly in ſituation. Her numerous creeks and harbours give other natural advantages. The almoſt laviſh diſpoſition of her Parliament to promote every ſeeming intereſt of the country, and the eagerneſs of individuals to inform themſelves, and to encourage ſuch undertakings, appear likely to inſure ſucceſs. Theſe are great and leading advanta-

ping. To the empire at large, it is indifferent to which of the iſlands ſhipping belongs; there is full room for both to extend themſelves. The furniſhing of ſeamen and marines are the means by which Ireland can beſt contribute her quota to the ſupport of the empire; and judging from the well-known ſpirit and temper of her people, there can be no doubt of her liberal compliance, on emergency, with requiſitions for that purpoſe from this country,

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ges; but the moſt neceſſary of all requiſites, the habits of the trade, correſpondencies and private capitals, which can ſtand in competition with the eſtabliſhed fiſheries of the north of Europe, are ſtill wanting. Much is ſtill to be done before Ireland can take a lead in any one branch of the fiſheries: in the mean time her attention is divided, and her capitals dwinled into trifles, which can never enable her to rival Holland. It is adviſable that ſhe ſhould confine herſelf to one branch, in which ſhe muſt endeavour to become perfect; and until ſhe excels, and by a great extenſion of her exertions can afford to ſell cheap, there is no probability of her commanding foreign markets.

HERRING FISHERY.

It is in the herring fiſhery ſhe is moſt likely to excel, and it is that, principally, which ſhe ſhould, at leaſt for a time, purſue. She ſhould not ſuffer herſelf to be diſtracted by uncertain attempts at other fiſheries until ſhe is well founded in this;

England, by being in poſſeſſion of the whale fiſhery, has great and almoſt unſurmountable advantages over her in that branch; and the difference of diſtance is not, perhaps, ſo great an object as at firſt appears.

Notwithſtanding the herrings have, in great meaſure, during the laſt fifteen years, deſerted the coaſt of Scotland, except, perhaps, the north-weſtern, and almoſt unexplored parts, yet the ſuperior frugality, ſobriety, and ſteadineſs of her people, their induſtry in taking the fiſh, and greater cleanlineſs in curing them, will enable her to rival Ireland, although the latter has the fiſh at her very door, where the Scotch now come to look for them. For on the north-weſtern coaſt of Ireland the herrings are caught in vaſt quantities cloſe to the ſhore.

It is the north-weſt wind which throws the herrings towards this coaſt. There is conſiderable uncertainty as to the bay or creek where they may firſt be found. They ſometimes firſt appear in Sligo bay; but the beſt fiſhery is at the Roſſes and near Killebegs. The north-weſt wind, which prevails on this coaſt,

coaſt, is terrible, and produces a great ſea, that is no ſmall interruption to the fiſhery. This part of the coaſt is very bold, the creeks and harbours not ſo frequent as elſewhere, nor always to be approached. It is difficult for the veſſels to run into ſhelter, when they can no longer keep the ſea. A huge ſwell daſhes againſt the roots of the mountains which form this coaſt, and this ſeems to give an advantage to the Scotch fiſhery which is carried on in the loughs or branches of the ſea which run into the land, and between the main land and the Hebrides. The laſt muſt afford great ſhelter; but, on the other hand, it is ſaid, that the fiſhery ſucceeds beſt in ſtormy weather; but if fiſh is not wanting, we cannot doubt a ſufficiency of ſtorm amidſt the Hebrides. Herring nets can be handed only in ſmall boats, and the fiſhery is never hurt by any weather in which the boats can live; a little wind is even neceſſary for them, as they always drift before it, when fiſhing, or with the tide, whichever prevails. The veſſels on the bounty, as well as thoſe from Liverpool and the Iſle of Man, come into the harbours and remain there. The fiſhery is

etirely

entirely carried on by the boats (and within the bays, ſometimes to the head of the ſmalleſt and narroweſt creeks) and thoſe moſtly of the country, as the veſſels ſeldom look out for any fiſh, but buy of the fiſhermen of the place. The Scotch, indeed, come over in buſſes, and bring boats, ſalt, nets, buoys, &c. and take their own fiſh, and royals, packs, or barrels, on board their buſſes.

In 1780, one hundred and thirty bounty veſſels were at the fiſhery in Lough Swilly: they expended, in the cure of fiſh, 1708 tons of ſalt, which ſalt cured in bulk (allowing 30 maize, or 15,000 fiſh to one ton of ſalt) 51,240 maize. A maize is 500 herrings.

In 1781, the bounty veſſels in the ſame lough were 147: ſalt expended, 1914 tons: maize or barrels cured, 57,420.

In 1780, ſeventy-one veſſels from Liverpool and the Iſle of Man, purchaſed cargoes in Lough Swilly for their red-herring houſes. They brought, per cocket, for curing fiſh at ſea, 650 tons of ſalt, (on which the duty, if demanded, 3351. 16s. 8d.) and with the ſalt they bought, and royaled, 39,000 maize,

for

for which they paid 8,125 l. at 10d. per hundred.

In 1781, one hundred and ſeventeen veſſels, from the ſame places, bought cargoes there, for the ſame purpoſe. They purchaſed, and royaled, with the ſalt they brought, 49,950 maize or barrels, and paid 12,487 l. 10s. ſo that the above veſſels in thoſe two years purchaſed in Lough Swilly 88,950 maize or barrels, for which they paid caſh, and left in Lough Swilly 20,612 l.

Total of herrings taken in two years, by the bounty and red-herring men, out of Lough Swilly, 197,610 maize or barrels.

In the ſummer, 1784, the herrings came upon the north-weſt coaſt about the laſt week in June, and continued until about the laſt week in September. At firſt they were of a ſmall ſize, but increaſed conſiderably; and latterly they were large, but, by no means, the ſize of the winter herrings. It is almoſt impoſſible to give even a ſatisfactory gueſs at the numbers that were taken. There was,

for

for a conſiderable part of that time, no other demand than from the country about thirty miles around, and the take was ſo very great, and the demand ſo ſmall, that incredible numbers were thrown away; and, upon an average price for a month, they did not exceed 10d. per thouſand. The number was ſo great, that 4d. 5d. or 6d. was the price of an horſe load, and there was no reſtriction as to the load. They were boiled for oil, the price of which was 10d. per gallon, and was very good for lamps. The guts of 500 of the ſmall harveſt herrings, when boiled, produce about a gallon of very good lamp oil, which is moſtly loſt at preſent. This kind of oil is much uſed by curriers.

The number of boats that were employed in the herring fiſhery, was from 70 to 100; and during the height of the ſeaſon, each boat could have taken at leaſt as many more as they did, ſeldom having occaſion to ſhoot their nets more than once for the boat load. As to the ſum each boat made, it is ſaid to be about 54l. and computing the price of herrings to be 20d. per thouſand, each boat took 648,000, which multiplied

by 70, the number of boats employed, gives 45,360,000, the number of herrings ſold, excluſive of what were boiled for oil, or were thrown away.

The herrings taken in July, Auguſt, and September, have hitherto been ſuppoſed incapable of being properly cured, on account of their very extraordinary richneſs; but this is found to be otherwiſe; for ſome of them in their richeſt ſtate have been cured, (and finer there cannot be) and it appears that if a ſufficient quantity of ſalt is uſed, they may be preſerved as well as the winter herring: but, by not taking proper care, and by a trifling ſaving, the commodity has been brought into diſrepute. It has been ſuggeſted, that ſome regulation in the curing the harveſt herring is neceſſary. The quantity of ſalt uſed for the winter fiſh, will preſerve the harveſt herrings for a ſhort, but not for a long time.

Sir Lucius O'Brien and Mr. Groſſett have collected and given to the public much uſeful information relative to the fiſheries; and ſome very intelligent gentlemen of Ire-

land having intereſted themſelves in this buſineſs, there is no doubt that it will have all the aſſiſtance that can be given to it.

Our prepoſſeſſion in favour of the fiſheries, founded on the patriotic wiſh to aſſiſt the navigation and marine of the empire, is highly laudable. It however, perhaps, leads us willingly to credit golden dreams of inexhauſtible markets, without much examination. We read of the fiſheries having produced to Holland nine millions ſterling yearly, and a revenue of one million. Almoſt all the writers on this ſubject copy Vice Admiral Sir William Monſon, or thoſe that copied him; of courſe there ſeems to be a good maſs of evidence to the ſame point. The number of buſſes, and people employed, and laſts of herrings, and other fiſh caught, is prodigious. One writer, however, Meynert Semyens, who publiſhed *A Brief Deſcription of the Herring Fiſhery*, in Dutch, printed at Enchuyſen in 1639, and who lived in the time of Monſon, does not make the number of buſſes employed half ſo many as the other writers, who ſay 1800 buſſes, and 9000 veſſels of

of all ſorts were employed in that fiſhery, Meynert Semyens mentions 700 buſſes only: this is a great number. It is now reduced to 200; but it ſhould be obſerved, that the tonnage of the buſſes in thoſe days was about 16 tons, and now that they are, on an average, 26 tons.

Sir William Monſon had diſtinguiſhed himſelf as a ſea officer in the reigns of Elizabeth and James I. He ſeems a reſpectable writer, and to have been a man of reſearch and obſervation; he had the beſt opportunities of information, and had explored the ſeas he mentions, particularly the coaſt of Ireland and north weſt of Scotland; he had commanded in thoſe ſeas, and his deſcription generally agrees with the beſt accounts that can now be had. As to the prodigious quantity of fiſh taken by the Dutch, he mentions, that the account was obtained from the cuſtom-houſe books of Holland. He gives us the ſeveral markets, and the quantity of fiſh taken by each place, and the whole ſeems to be authentic; but we ſhould have had more ſatisfaction in believing him, if he had not believed that in

Spain a mermaid came out of the ſea, "en-
"gendered with a woman on ſhore, and be-
"gat on her a child."

At all events, we know that the advantage of the herring fiſhery to the Dutch has been very great, that it is diminiſhed, but ſtill is very conſiderable; that the Swedes and Eaſtlanders have got a conſiderable ſhare of it. That the French have little of it, nor are they likely to have much more, the herrings in the ſeas which are convenient to them, being ſmall and bad, as they are on the ſouth coaſt of England and ſouth of Norfolk. It is obſerved, that coming from the north, they become comparatively a bad fiſh when they arrive ſo far ſouth as Orfordneſs, and that as they return to the north again, they improve; and when they arrive near the Weſtern Iſles, they become once more a fine fat fiſh.

And here the unfriendly diſpoſition of the two nations of Ireland and Scotland, on the ſubject of the fiſheries, ſhould be noticed. It is injurious to each, as the utmoſt and united exertions of both countries will,

will, with great difficulty, gain upon the Dutch, and enable them to obtain and ſupply the foreign demand. While the herrings were on the coaſt of Scotland, the complaints were againſt the Scotch; but they are now turned againſt the Iriſh. It ſhould rather be the buſineſs of Ireland to learn the art of fiſhery and curing fiſh from the fiſhermen of Campbeltown; they ſhould court their aſſiſtance; and it would be ſtill better if a colony of Dutchmen could be ſettled at the Roſſes. Neatneſs, in which the Dutch excel, is not the quality for which the lower ranks of Scotland or of Ireland are moſt diſtinguiſhed; yet it is the neatneſs of the Dutch, and care in curing, that acquired, for their fiſh, a high reputation, and gained for it ſo extraordinary a market.

The legiſlatures of the two iſlands ſhould form the neceſſary regulations, which might be enforced by ſloops or cutters. It is ſaid, that beſides other ill treatment complained of when the Scotch veſſels come upon the Iriſh coaſt, advantage is taken of the hovering act to oblige them to enter, (though not to land,) and pay the Iriſh duty for ſalt.

The

The Britiſh duties are drawn back on the ſalt uſed in the fiſheries, but the Iriſh are not; the latter are not conſiderable, being only 12s. per ton on ſalt imported; yet the Iriſh think it hard the Britiſh veſſels ſhould have this advantage of them on their own coaſt. Perhaps it may be adviſeable for Ireland to allow a drawback of the duty on all ſalt uſed in the fiſheries: this may give an opening to ſome fraud, and the revenue may ſuffer a little; but even leſs than four pence per barrel (each barrel takes a buſhel of ſalt) is a conſiderable and unneceſſary weight to fall on the fiſhery in its infancy, and this would remove one difficulty between the Scotch and Iriſh fiſheries. The Iriſh fiſher, at preſent, is obliged to land the ſalt which is brought from Britain; for when he enters it outwards from thence, he engages in a bond for 6s. 8d. per cwt. defeaſible, upon producing a certificate of its being landed in Ireland; and in order to get ſuch certificate, he is obliged to unload all his ſalt, and re-ſhip it for the fiſhery; but the Scotch having entered theirs to be expended upon the curing of fiſh at ſea, on their return to Great Britain, have an allow-

ance of ſo much as they have wet, duty free, and have, therefore, no occaſion for the Iriſh certificate. Ireland farther complains, that Britiſh herrings come into their home markets at 2s. and 8d. bounty on export from Britain, and only 1s. duty in Ireland, the Britiſh ſalt alſo being without duty. It ſhould be obſerved, that a nominal drawback of the whole duties in Scotland does not remove all expence; the buſineſs of bonds and certificates cauſes trouble and delay; ſome gratuities muſt be given; attendance and time are expence, which is not drawn back, and probably amount to no ſmall part of the Iriſh duty on ſalt.

The north-weſtern fiſhery of Ireland although ſo promiſing, is yet in a very mean ſtate; there is little to mention, except what nature has done; and ſurely, all things conſidered, ſhe has done as much for Ireland as for any part of Europe. We learn that in other parts the herring is an uncertain fiſh, but we have not heard that it ever entirely failed on this coaſt. Unfavourable winds prevented the herrings from embaying ſufficiently early the laſt ſeaſon, to enable

able Ireland to furniſh the uſual quantity for the Weſt Indies, conſequently the price roſe to 4l. per barrel in thoſe iſlands. It is probable the fiſhermen too ſoon deſpond of finding fiſh; and ſometimes the diſappointment happens through want of ſufficiency of buoy rope: an incident of laſt year ſeemed to confirm it. The three firſt nets or dippings were proved twice, and only ſtraggling herrings found in them; on proving them a third time, there was the ſame appearance, but on taking in the nets to change ground, it was found the buoy of the center net was burſt, by which it ſunk five feet of the line; upon drawing it into the boat it was full of herrings. From this circumſtance it is conjectured, that a want of a ſufficiency of buoy rope is the reaſon country fiſhermen are ſo often unſucceſsful, although immediately above the herrings.

Perhaps if the hint given by Mr. Pennant was followed on the coaſt of Ireland as well as of Scotland, it would be as uſeful a kind of bounty as could be offered by government, viz. each year to ſend out ſmall veſſels to make a thorough trial in every branch of the

the ſea; they would undoubtedly find ſhoals in ſome of them, which, together with ſounding the banks and examining the coaſt, might be performed by the ſloops or cutters appointed to enforce the neceſſary regulations of the fiſheries.

The deſtruction of the Scotch fiſhery has been in part attributed to the largeneſs of their nets: they were often ſo loaded with herrings that the nets could not be taken out of the water till the following day. This was the opinion of an intelligent perſon who had been engaged in the Scotch fiſhery thirty years.

If the Dublin ſociety ſhould think proper to print the beſt rules and obſervations on the ſubject that can be collected, and diſperſe them among thoſe concerned, and the fiſhermen, poſſibly a better mode will be ſooner introduced in the place of bad habits and ignorant prejudice, and the fiſhery may ſooner arrive at perfection. At preſent the Iriſh method of curing fiſh is extremely ſlovenly. Herrings caught and cured by the Scots in the ſame ſeas, are much perferred

and ſell at a conſiderably higher price in the Iriſh market. No ſmall part of the herrings exported from Cork are imported from Scotland, although they are not intitled to any bounty on re-export, but the great bounties on export from Scotland enables them to go to Cork to be ſent abroad notwithſtanding that diſadvantage. The ſuperiority of the Scotch herrings over the Iriſh, ariſes principally from the latter being carried in bulk to Cork there to be barrelled. They are much hurt by the preſſure in the package and by their not being gutted till they arrive. They ſhould barrel at or near the fiſhery.

There are not at preſent the neceſſary buildings and conveniences on the coaſt. Holes are dug in the earth, in which the fiſh is ſalted, then covered with earth, and the people are ſurpriſed to find that ſnow and rain hurt them in that ſtate. The want of proper eſtabliſhments and ſtores has ſubjected the fiſheries of Ireland to great inconveniences; in particular it has been ſeverely felt in the enormous price of ſalt occaſionally when the take of fiſh was great. In 1771 ſalt was at 10l. 10s. per ton. The ordinary price

price is about 3l. 10s. Several perſons have now ſet up ſalt works on the coaſt. The ſalt is weaker than the Engliſh becauſe it is not ſo much boiled. This is among many articles in which Britain muſt always have an advantage through her greater abundance of coal.

Beſides ſtores on the coaſt, inſpectors are wanted, to ſee the herrings properly cured and made up; and there ſhould be regulated packers as in Holland.

The principal herring fiſhery of Ireland is from Lough Swilly to Broad Haven. It has been recommended to eſtabliſh a ſtore at Killeybeggs, on account of its being the moſt commodious harbour for the early fiſhery: certain intelligence of the ſoutherly fiſhery, viz. Ballywell, Sligo bay, Killalla, Black Rock and Broad Haven, is to be got there or at Donegal. Beſides there are about that harbour a number of ſmall crecks and bays, viz. M'Swine's bay, Portnacroſs and Tillon, into which the herrings generally ſet and where boats can run in eaſy weather. However the Roſſes ſeem beſt calculated to be the

head quarters or chief ſtore; and in caſe red-herring houſes ſhould be erected, the fiſh there is larger and of courſe better adapted for that purpoſe*. They have likewiſe the advantage of an eaſier communication with Britain for the importation of ſalt and wood. The ſituation too is convenient for the Dernfernachy and Lough-Swilly fiſheries. In every reſpect the Roſſes muſt anſwer beſt for a general ſtore to collect all the fiſh got on either ſide.

The making of oil from the ſummer fiſh ſhould be encouraged, and alſo from the guts of herrings as well as from ſeals, dog-fiſh, ſun-fiſh, &c. &c.

The herring fiſhery was at its height before the Newfoundland fiſhery became conſiderable. The former has ſince decreaſed, but we are told thoſe fiſheries have not in the leaſt interfered with each other, and that the herring fiſhery has not been prejudiced by that of Newfoundland. The aſſertion is

* There is only one red herring houſe in the kingdom, which was built laſt ſummer.

contrary

contrary to reaſon. The great relaxation as to lent-keeping in Europe muſt alſo have diminiſhed the demand for herrings; and, perhaps, every country, to a certain degree, ſupplies itſelf with more fiſh than formerly. From theſe circumſtances it may be thought the foreign markets for herrings can never be raiſed to what they were, or to what the Dutch enjoyed. No new market has occurred ſince the high proſperity of that fiſhery, except the Weſt Indian, for which, in the year ending 25th March, 1783, Ireland exported 35,960 barrels.

This kind of examination is neceſſary for the purpoſe of diſcovering to what extent markets can be expected, and of avoiding the loſs and diſappointment of ſpeculating too far in this fiſhery. However, Ireland having the advantage of all other countries in the herring branch of the fiſheries, with proper exertions, might ſurpaſs them in it; and then ſhe need not fear the want of a ſufficient market.

The

The increaſe of the fiſhery appears from the following account:

Average annual quantity of herrings exported from Ireland for four years, ending 25 March, 1767, 4672 barrels.

Average annual quantity of herrings imported into Ireland, for the ſame years, 32,824 barrels.

Average annual quantity of herrings exported from Ireland, for four years, ending 25 March, 1783, 24,273 barrels.

Average annual quantity of herrings imported into Ireland, for the ſame years, 12,277 barrels.

As the latter were years of war, the increaſe of exportation is more extraordinary.

It is remarkable, that the imports and exports of the two periods, collectively taken, and compared, are nearly equal.

WHALE FISHERY.

There are, undoubtedly, whales off the north and north weſt coaſt of Ireland, which come cloſe in ſhore. The ſpermaceti whale may be found at ſome diſtance from the coaſt. The bone whale follows the herrings into the bays, and one of the *ſigns* of fiſh, as the fiſhermen phraſe it, is the whale. Some years ago 1000l. was given by the parliament of Ireland, for the purpoſe of carrying on this fiſhery. The perſon to whom it was granted killed ſeven whales, but has not ſince purſued that fiſhery. Its practicability on that coaſt is, however, firmly aſſerted, and that Ireland, at leaſt, might ſupply her own demand with the produce of the whale, and thereby keep a conſiderable ſum of money at home. Ireland certainly has ſome advantages in this fiſhery; and ſince the act of the 15th of the preſent reign, which opens the ports of Great Britain for whale fins and blubber, and oil alſo of all creatures living in the ſea, to all the ſubjects of his Majeſty's European dominions, there can now be

be no doubt of a market, and her own conſumption of oil is greatly increaſed. But if the attempt to lower the duties on oil from the American States ſhould ſucceed, the intereſt of the empire at large will be extremely prejudiced: a propoſal more miſchievous to our fiſheries, and conſequently to the Britiſh marine, cannot be made.

THE WHITE OR COD FISHERY.

The abundance of cod, ling, and hake, on the coaſt of Ireland, is well known; there are banks conſtantly frequented by white fiſh, which is ſaid to be as good, and even larger than what is taken at Newfoundland *. But it has been ſaid there are other Banks off the north weſt of Ireland and Scotland, mentioned alſo by Sir William Monſon, and ſuppoſed by ſome to be a part of a chain which extends to thoſe at Newfoundland; others think they extend to-

* A Company of merchants engaged in the White fiſhery a few years ago: after two or three years they relinquiſhed the purſuit, having loſt a conſiderable proportion of their capital.

wards

wards Cape Farewell, off Greenland. In 1783, Captain Elliſon, in the Ariadne, went in ſearch of theſe banks. The moſt accurate ſoundings were taken, but no traces of them were found. As the examination was made under the direction of the Lord Lieutenant, it is probable that all the information that could be obtained was given, to guide and aſſiſt the undertaking.

FISH imported into Ireland.

		Year 1711	Year 1734	Year 1738	Year 1740	An average of 7 yrs. ending 25th March, 1762.
Anchovies	Barrels.	309	776	619	401½	564
Cod —	C. q. No.	¼	300½	212¾	678	427 2 24
Cod —	Barrels.	14	15	—	22	33
Hake —	C. q. No.	—	—	—	—	36 3
Herrings	Barrels.	1702½	764½	7418	4081	25603
Ling —	C. q. No.	—	39½	½	43¾	214
Mackerel	Barrels.	—	—	—	—	18
Pilchards	Hogsheads	—	—	—	—	69
Salmon —	Tons.	13⅓	2½	1	6⅛	21
Stock —	C. q. No.	—	—	—	3½	55 1 18
Sturgeon	Kegs.	49	355	188	179	192

FISH exported from Ireland.

		Year. 1711	Year. 1734	Year. 1738	Year 1740	Average of 7 yrs. ending 25 March, 1762.
Cod —	Barrels.	141	2	—	—	32
Cod —	C. q. No.	—	—	—	—	6
Hake —	Ditto.	1859 2	470 2	1532	1245	1163
Herrings	Barrels.	6674	21057	7743¾	2581½	5838
Ling —	C. q. No.	27	—	1	—	77 7
Mackerel	Barrels.	—	20	110	293	671
Pilchards	Hogsheads	—	2594¾	2754	366	½
Salmon —	Tons.	920	545	513⅓	383⅓	489
Dried —	C. q. No.	59 16	—	—	—	1 0 14

Total of Fish exported from Ireland to all Parts, the year ending the 25th March, 1783.			Ditto imported into Ireland for the same Year.		
Cod —	Barrels.	272	Anchovies	Barrels.	294
Cod —	C. q. No.	5	Cod —	C. q. No.	531 5
Eels —	Barrels.	1⅓	Herrings	Barrels.	4324
Hake —	C. q. No.	1367 3 10	Ling —	C. q. No.	281 1 5
Herrings	Barrels.	4848½	Oysters	Gallons.	5
Ling —	C. q. No.	170	Salmon *	Tons trs.	47 1
Salmon	Tons trs.	253 21/60	Sturgeon	Kegs.	33

* The importation of salmon was probably accidental.

OIL exported from Ireland in the year, ending 25th March, 1783.

	Hogſheads.	Gallons.
Train oil, - -	1 -	7

OIL imported into Ireland the ſame year.

	Gallons.
Linſeed, - - -	25,311¼
Seville, - - - -	29,475½
Sweet, - - -	97,95$\frac{31}{56}$
Train, - - -	76,595$\frac{31}{56}$

WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE.

The woollen manufacture of Ireland is undoubtedly very conſiderable, and now produces more than her fiſheries; but it will not be carried to an extent much greater than at preſent, as has been already remarked on the ſubject of protecting duties. By ſacrificing greater advantages than could be attained through a forced increaſe of the manufacture, more wool might be raiſed, and more cloth might be made, but the woollen is not likely to be the principal manufacture of Ireland for export.

It is curious to obſerve the illiberal arts and injudicious exertions of oppreſſion, employed by one country to depreſs and prevent the exportation of the woollen manufacture of the other; and the equally ignorant diſpoſition of Ireland, almoſt conſtantly during this century, to impute her poverty and inability of growing rich, to the want of a woollen export trade, while it is probable that ſince the revolution ſhe barely grew wool enough to cloath her own inhabitants. This has been partly ſhewn by comparing, under the article of protecting duties, the late import of woollens with the export of wool and yarn; for we know that if wool is now ſmuggled from Ireland, the quantity is trifling. The home market is, and has been ſo high for a conſiderable time, that no foreign market can afford to pay the aditional expence of ſmuggling. which has been computed at 6d. per lb: and it is generally underſtood that when wool is above 10s. per ſtone in that country, it will not anſwer to ſmuggle it.

Some manufactures of wool exiſted in Ireland previous to the reign of James the Firſt

Firſt, but they were not conſiderable. They then made ſome progreſs, and in the ſucceeding reign, although Lord Strafford diſcouraged them. The civil war which followed, almoſt annihilated every manufacture in Ireland, and that country which had ſo abounded in cattle and proviſions, was after Cromwell's *ſettlement* of it, obliged to import proviſions from Wales*. However it was ſufficiently recovered ſoon after the Reſtoration to alarm the grazing counties of England, and in the year 1666, the importation of live cattle, ſheep, ſwine, &c. from Ireland was prohibited. The principle of the bill was bad in every reſpect, but it proved an excellent law for her. It was repreſented that the rents of England had fallen one fifth through the public *nuiſance*, as it was termed, of importing cattle from Ireland, although the value of thoſe imported the years previous to the law was not above 132,000l. The hides, tallow, and freight whereof, were worth half that ſum. Obſerve how it an-

* Sir William Petty, ſtates the cattle and ſtock of Ireland to be worth above four millions in 1641, and that the whole cattle in Ireland was not worth 500,000l. in 1652.

ſwered

ſwered the narrow views of England. Before that time great numbers of young cattle were ſent to England: little butter, ſcarce any beef, hides, or tallow, were exported; and the money received for the cattle was paid for Engliſh commodities. Ireland turned to ſheep, to the dairy, and fattening of cattle, and to tillage, and ſhe ſhortly exported much beef and butter, and has ſince ſupplanted England in thoſe beneficial branches of trade. She was forced to ſeek a foreign market; and England had no more than a fourth of her trade, although before that time ſhe had almoſt the whole of it. The woollen manufacture of Ireland* towards the end of that century, began to recover, and England (not content with her extraordinary experiment in reſpect to cattle) immediately ſuppoſed

* A report of the board of trade made in the year 1697 gives the following account of the Iriſh woollen manufactures.

	New Draperies.	Old Draperies.	Frize.
Years.	Pieces.	Pieces.	Yards.
1665	224	32	444,381
1687	11,360	103	1,129,716
1696	4,413	34½	104,167

her

her own manufacture ruined, and a narrow ſpirit which was more excuſable in the manufacturers becauſe they ſeemed in a degree intereſted, induced the legiſlature to paſs an act in 1699 prohibiting the exportation of woollen manufactures from Ireland to any other places but the few wool ports in England, where they were liable to duties which amounted to a prohibition.

And, obſerve again, the miſtake of England. The woollen manufacturers of Ireland, who, or their anceſtors, came chiefly from England*, now emigrated from Ireland; certainly, however, in ſmaller numbers than were at the time repreſented. In their reſentment and neceſſities many of the Proteſtants moved to Germany, many of the Roman Catholics to Spain, and others of each deſcription to France, where they received encouragement, and ſhewed the way how

* About the year 1664, ſome clothiers from the Weſt of England ſettled in Dublin, and eſtabliſhed the manufacture, which ſtill continues there. It is ſaid, nearly at the ſame time, ſixty Dutch families of clothiers ſettled at Limerick. Some Engliſh clothiers ſettled alſo at Cork and Kinſale. Some French introduced the drugget manufacture at Waterford; and, in 1675, ſome London merchants ſet up a woollen manufacture at Clonmell.

our wool might be ſmuggled from both iſlands. The foundation of manufactures were laid, or they were promoted, highly to the prejudice of England; and thus ſome return was made for the manufactures eſtabliſhed in the Britiſh dominions by the equally wiſe edict of Nantz.

But the account of the woollen manufactures exported from Ireland, in 1698, the year preceding the prohibition, will beſt ſhew the wantonneſs of that oppreſſive meaſure.

		England.	Scotland.	Elſewhere.
Apparel -	Value	102 3 4	—	517 19
Drapery	New Pieces	601	2128	20556½
	Old Pieces	1¼	29¾	250½
Frize - -	Yards	127601	1355	537945
Hats - -	Number	479	1125	2866
Rugs - -	Number	30	10	418
Stockings	Wol. doz. pair	745	5	7002
	Wor. doz. pair	16 9	—	158 8

For the better underſtanding of this account, it is neceſſary to know, that the only article in it of which the amount is conſiderable, namely frizes, was not made in England*. That

* It is extraordinary how much the export of frize from Ireland is reduced. The quantity lately exported from Ireland is trifling.

1781,

That the frizes and ſtockings exported the preceding year, 1697, together, amounted to 14,625 l. 12 s*. and the old and new drapery, which alone interfered with the Engliſh manufacture, amounted only to 8988 l. 17 s. 6 d†. In 1698, 13,480 ſtones of yarn and 217,678 ſtones of wool were ſent to England, which was 9,812 ſtones of yarn more than in 1687, the year of greateſt export; and 38,913 ſtones of wool leſs ‡. In the above-mentioned year of the greateſt export, viz. 1687, the value of all the woollen manufactures exported, did not exceed

1781, 1779 yards, moſtly to America.

1782, 800 ditto, all to America.

1783, 784 ditto: 84 to America, 700 to Flanders, but the conſumption of the inhabitants is probably increaſed. It is remarkable, that it was the principal woollen manufacture of Ireland, when her wool was much finer than it is now. The large part of the frizes that came to England were dreſſed, and receiving a great degree of manufacture, afforded a conſiderable profit to this country.

* This calculation is taken from J. Smith on Wool: it appears very low.

† Total of woollen manufactures exported that year, 23614, 9s. 6d. accounting the wool whereof to be one fourth, the value of the labour was about 18,000l.

‡ J. Smith on Wool.

70,521 l. 14 s. and of that ſum the frizes amounted to 56,485 l. 16 s. coarſe ſtockings, 2520 l. 18 s. Old and new draperies did not exceed 11,514 l. 10 s. It ſeems, from the cuſtom-houſe accounts, that Ireland had not recovered above one third of the woollen trade ſhe had before the war of the Revolution, and it is remarkable, that in the above year, 1687, ſhe ſent more wool and yarn to England than in any of the preceding years, viz. of yarn, at 18 lbs. to the ſtone, 3668 ſtones, of wool, 256,592 ſtones.

England ſeems to have been blind as to a very obvious conſequence of prohibiting the exportation of woollens from Ireland, namely, that it would lead her to manufacture her wool into a great variety of articles for her own conſumption, which ſhe then took from England, and reduce her import of Engliſh manufactures; whereas the frizes, the then principal manufacture of Ireland, did not interfere with any branch of her woollens.

It had the conſequence of leſſening the import from England, although not for the years immediately following. In 1700, were imported from Britain,

Yards.

	Yards.	Value.
Old drapery,	12,119½	9,014l. 12s. 6d.
New drapery,	24,522	2,043l. 10s. 0d.

But, in 1706*, we find the quantity imported from England reduced to leſs than half of the broad cloth, and to about two thirds of the narrow.

	Yards.	Value.
Old drapery,	5514½	4,135l. 17s. 6d.
New drapery,	15,308½	1,913l. 11s. 3d.

The quantity of wool imported into England from Ireland, in 1700, was 336,292 ſtones, at 18 lbs. Yarn, the ſame year, 26,617 ſtones. But the prohibition having promoted the ſmuggling of wool, the peace of Utrecht rendered that buſineſs more eaſy,

* Some years after, the quantity imported gradually increaſed with the population and riches of the country, and in 1714 it exceeded the importations previous to the prohibition. About that time alſo, it ſhould be obſerved, the ſmuggling of wool increaſed, in conſequence of the low price of wool at home. One mode of ſmuggling was by preſſing the wool very cloſe in barrels or caſks with ſcrews; and placing a little butter or beef at top, it was ſent abroad as either of the laſt: and as it was the intereſt of the country to export it, although the cuſtom-houſe officer knew the deceit, he did not dare to detect it.

the intercourſe with France was greater, and in the year 1714, the quantity of wool imported into England from Ireland, was diminiſhed to 147,153 ſtones *, and it has ſince continued to decreaſe to the ſmall quantity now exported; which will be mentioned hereafter.

The quantity of woollen yarn imported into England from Ireland, had increaſed from 26,617 ſtones in 1700, to 91,854 ſtones, in 1729, the year previous to the alteration of the duty on export from Ireland. Since that time the duties were entirely taken off † in England, by the 12 and 26 Geo. 2. from

* The quantity of yarn exported from Ireland to England, in 1714, was 58,147 ſtones, at 18 lbs.

† But this was not propoſed in favour of Ireland. It was not much better than a job in favour of the Engliſh manufacturers, whoſe intereſt it was not to diminiſh the quantity of Iriſh wool, though their wiſh was totally to deſtroy the Iriſh manufacture, and (notwithſtanding the monopoly that was already given to them of Engliſh wool) it was thought reaſonable that the wool-growers of England ſhould ſubmit to this additional depreciation of that article. This law, however, tended to leſſen the ſmuggling of wool from Ireland to foreign countries, at the ſame time that it lowered the price, (which was, perhaps, already too low) in England.

woollen and worſted yarn imported from Ireland. To which, and the increaſed demand for worſted yarn from Mancheſter, and the circumſtance that ſpinning is much cheaper in Ireland than in England * being added, the increaſed export of yarn which took place may be imputed. The value of wool was raiſed very conſiderably above the price in England, by the demands of the merchant, who was enabled to give an extraordinary price, being reimburſed through the low price of ſpinning. Smuggling of wool, of courſe, decreaſed, and has for many years ceaſed; and here it may be remarked, that the depreciation of wool in any country, below its natural value, by prohibitions or monopolies, encourages ſmuggling more than the particular want of it in other countries.

On an average of five years, ending 1768, the quantity of woollen and worſted yarn exported was 160,295 ſtones, and of wool 25,284 ſtones. But latterly the quantity has

* Viz. in Ireland, two pence half-penny and three pence. In England, at five pence and ſix pence. Other eſtimates ſay at nine pence per lb. for ſpinning in England; five pence in Ireland.

decreaſed

decreaſed very much; principally from the increaſe of the woollen manufacture in Ireland, the increaſe of the people, and conſequently increaſed home conſumption; and ſome add that the corn bounties and increaſe of tillage has diminiſhed the number of ſheep. Export of woollen and worſted yarn on an average of five years ending 25th March 1783, 84,255 ſtones, and of wool 2435 ſtones.

The quantity of wool exported from Ireland to England at different periods has been mentioned down to 1714, and of woollen and worſted yarn down to 1729. The quantity of wool exported from Ireland to England that year was 38,667 ſtones at 18lb. and the quantity imported the ſame year of

Old drapery from England,
24,399½ yards, value 18,299l. 8s. od.

Old drapery from Scotland,
13 yards, value 9l. 15s. od.

New drapery from England,
35,521 yards, value 3,552l. 2s. od.

New drapery from Scotland,
384 yards, value 38l. 8s. od.

From

From that year the importation of draperies decreaſed very conſiderably, and in the year 1737 it was leſs than half, viz.

Old drapery from Great Britain,
9626½ yards, value 6497l. 17s. 9d. od.

New drapery from Great Britain,
17569½ yards, value 2635l. 8s. od.

For which the writer of theſe obſervations cannot account, unleſs by the impoveriſhment and diſtreſs ariſing from the ſcarcity of corn in the years 1728 and 1729. It appeared in the latter year, that corn had been imported in eighteen months to the amount of 274,000l. a vaſt ſum at that time, conſidering the ſtate of the country. Yet in 1740 and 1741, years alſo of ſcarcity, the importation of draperies had increaſed, viz.

Old drapery, in

1740	1741	1742 and	1743
Yards.	Yards.	Yards.	Yards.
16,714.	12,918.	22,971.	14,582.

New

New drapery,

39,064. 42,504. 53,364. 65,880*.

But from that time the importation began to increaſe, and ſoon very rapidly and progreſſively till the greateſt import took place in 1777, viz.

Old drapery,

381,330 yards, value 266,931l.

New drapery,

731,819½ yards, value 91,477l. 8s. 4d.

But the average of five years ending 1777 was only,

Old drapery,

289,053¼ yards, value 202,337l. 6s. 10½d.

New darpery,

544,493½ yards, value 68,061l. 13s. 1½d.

In conſequence of non-importation agreements, and other circumſtances, the importation ſuddenly and greatly fell.

* Average export of woollen yarn for five years ending 1743, 14799 ſtones. Ditto of worſted or bay yarn 64,983 ſtones.

Old

Old drapery imported in

1779	1780
176,196 yards.	64,346 yards.

New drapery,

270,839 yards.	159,428 yards.

But in the following years the importation of old drapery roſe above the average of former years, and amends were made for non-importations, as was the caſe in America on like occaſions. The new draperies did not riſe to the quantities imported in 1774, 1775, 1776, 1777, and 1778; but it may be accounted for by the increaſe of that manufacture in Ireland.

Old drapery imported from Great Britain in

1781,	1782, and	1783.
326,578 yds.	362,824 yds.	371,871 yds.

New drapery,

433,198 yds.	547,336 yds.	420,415 yds.

It is rather to be wiſhed than expected, that the reflections which are naturally ſuggeſted by ſuch a detail, may tend to the ſuppreſſion of narrow and abſurd notions in the legiſlative regulations of trade; but it was

principally intended, with the details given on the ſubject of protecting duties, to evince the ſmall probability that Ireland, under a great increaſe of inhabitants, an increaſed tillage, and probable decreaſe of ſheep, is likely to prejudice the Britiſh manufacture by diminiſhing her demand for Engliſh woollens, or by carrying her woollen manufacture to a much greater extent, or exporting much greater quantities than ſhe has already done. It will require great improvements in the whole ſyſtem of agriculture, and the labour and experience of many years, before ſhe can conſiderably increaſe her ſheep without decreaſing her tillage, which is of much more conſequence to her. If ſhe extends her manufacture much farther, it muſt be done by an entire revolution in the ſmuggling line, and the cheap wools of England muſt be introduced into Ireland; but the expence of ſmuggling, or even of a qualified importation from England, with all the charges attendant on it, would make the article ſo dear, that Ireland could not vie with the Engliſh manufacture, eſpecially in the coarſer fabrics, where the raw material bears a greater proportion of the value than in the finer.

As

As to the quality of Iriſh wool, it is certainly much decreaſed in fineneſs; but the increaſed quantity more than compenſates.* Sir William Petty mentions the fleece to weigh about two pounds, and he ſuppoſes that there were then in Ireland four millions of ſheep, and this was probably about the time of the act againſt the importation of Iriſh cattle. It is ſaid Ireland produced excellent clothing wool the laſt century; but there are now only three counties in that

* The writer of theſe obſervations can ſay, from experience, that increaſed quantity more than compenſates for quality. His flock conſiſting of above 1000 ſheep, was originally from the ſouth downs of Suſſex. It was croſſed ten years ago with one of Mr. Bakewell's rams, whoſe wool was by no means of the coarſeſt or longeſt kind. The fleeces of the flock were increaſed from an average of 2¼lb. which ſold for 9d. per lb. to full 5lb. which ſold for 8d. at the time wool was cheapeſt. The fleeces have returned towards their former weight; they average about 2¾lb. It ſold in the year 1784, at ten pence per lb. only, although the price of fine wool is higher an is was a few years ago, and although ſome of the fleeces were ſo fine as to weigh only one pound five ounces. It is clear, then, that five pounds of coarſe wool at 8d. anſwers better than 2¾lbs. at 10d.; and in general what is moſt beneficial to the individual in matters of this kind, is beſt for the country

kingdom that now furniſh any quantity of that kind, or even coarſe, proper for clothing; (Clare furniſhes the beſt) and the quantity produced, bears no proportion to the quantity of coarſe cloth conſumed in Ireland; there muſt, therefore, be a balance againſt one of the woollen manufactures of that country.

The Iriſh fleeces, inſtead of 2lb. are now double, or near treble that weight. Mr. Young's examination of that point is very ſatisfactory; and he, from the minutes made on his Tour of Ireland, ſtates the average weight of the fleece to be 5lb.

As to the price of wool being too high, it may be remarked, that notwithſtanding this ſuppoſed extraordinary value, the quantity of ſheep is ſaid to decreaſe in Ireland, and, undoubtedly, would decreaſe much more if the price was as low as in England. A prohibition of the export of wool and yarn for the ſake of lowering the price of wool to aſſiſt the manufacturer, would, probably, diminiſh the price, and much diminiſh the number of ſheep; but, in the

end,

end, from the depreciation of the price, would riſe again in conſequence of the decreaſe of ſheep; and conſidering the higher price of wool in Ireland than in England, it is probable there is a redundancy of the kind * that goes to the latter, that it is of a ſort for which there is not as yet a full demand; but as ſoon as the manufacture ariſes or increaſes, a demand will ſtop the exportation. Until the manufacturers are more induſtrious, and conſequently can afford to live better and conſume more meat, ſheep, when wool is low, will not anſwer as well as in England, where the price of mutton is much higher, and makes it anſwer to the farmer to raiſe ſheep when the price of wool would not. But it does not appear that wool is at an unnatural price in Ireland; it is dearer than it was when there was little demand from ſpinners, and when the low price made it an object to ſmuggle. It is dearer than the wool of England, of which a monopoly is given to the manu-

* The inconſiderable quantity exported appears in the the table, No. 1, and that, on an average, it does not exceed in value 1000l. yearly.

fac-

facturers; but comparatively with the wool of other countries, it is cheap.

Barely to ſtate the price of wool at different periods, only miſleads; and thoſe who wiſh to acquire uſeful information on that ſubject, muſt examine into the circumſtances of each time, when the price is mentioned as to England.

We are told that the wool of Belton, in Lincolnſhire, was 24s. per todd in 1642; that Engliſh wool in general was 15l. the pack, of 240lb., in 1647, when the exportation was firſt prohibited; and ordinary wool 12d. per lb. in 1651; that the ſame ſort of wool which was bought for 15l. in 1647, was, in 1677, ſold for 12l. It is neceſſary to recollect, that in 1647, the devaſtation of the civil war had greatly diminiſhed the quantity of ſheep in England. In 1677, wool which ſold for 16d. and 18d. per lb. during the war, was bought at 12d. and other accounts ſay, even ſo low as 4d. or 5d. per lb. and 3l. 10s. per pack; in 1680, it was ſaid, wool had fallen from 30s. and 40s. to 12 and 13s. the todd; in 1697,

1697, wool fell from 12, 14, and 16l. per pack to 11l.; in 1702, to 7l. 10s.; and in 1703, roſe to 12 and 14l.; in 1709, it was at 9l.; in 1711, it was at 18s. per todd; in 1717 and 1718, wool bore a higher price than for near thirty years; and ſoon after, it is to be regretted, that the Engliſh woollen manufacture did not derive its great proſperity from any other cauſe than the deſtructive plague at Marſeilles. In 1737, long wool was leſs than 6d. per lb. and in 1739 at 4l. 10s. per pack; in 1743*, it advanced from 12s, to 28s. per todd, ſuppoſed to be owing to a great demand from France; in 1750, it roſe ſtill higher, and fell again on the import of Iriſh wool and yarn into all the ports. Engliſh wool, which ſold at Amſterdam in 1751 at 37s. fell, in two years to 1l. 1s. and 1l. 5s. viz. 1753. In

* Price of wool per todd from the ſame farm. Smith's Memoirs of Wool.

				£.	s.	d.
1718,	—	—	—	1	1	0
1719,	—	—	—	1	0	6
1738,	—	—	—	0	13	6
1739,	—	—	—	0	13	0
1743,	—	—	—	0	19	6

1758,

1758, it roſe again; in 1768 it fell; it was ſtill lower in 1770, and has ſince riſen, but the price of long or combing wool fell from 18s. and 6d. in 1776, to 9s. in 1781. In ſhort, that the price has often been below what it ought to be, will be generally allowed, and the cauſes of the variations are, in general, clearly imputable to war, prohibitions, demands from abroad, and admiſſions of wool and yarn from Ireland, rather than to the ſtate of the woollen trade. Thoſe who wiſh for a greater detail on this ſubject, previous to 1750, will conſult Smith's Memoirs of Wool. The quality of wool varies ſo much in England, that it is extremely difficult to give a comparative view or average price. The following account is the beſt that offers at preſent, the computation was made in 1779:

Prices of WOOL in different Parts of England, per lb. weight.

	s	d.
Norfolk, at - - - -	0	6½

SUSSEX.

South Down wool weighs about 2lb. and ½ the fleece on an average - - -	0	9

N. B. The fineſt ſells, ſome years, at near 15d. per lb.

KENT

KENT.

In Weſt Kent, South Down ſheep's wool -	0	7
The horned weſt country ſheep brought into Weſt Kent, weighs about 3½ lb. the fleece -	0	6
In Eaſt Kent, South Down ſheep's wool - -	0	5½
Romney Marſh (large) - - - - -	0	5
Weſt-country ſheep - - - - -	0	4½

LINCOLNSHIRE.

Long Lincolnſhire weighs about 9½ lb. the fleece	0	6
Lincoln Heath wool weighs about 5½ lb. ditto -	0	5

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

Fallow Field weighs about 4lb. the fleece -	0	5
Foreſt weighs about 2lb. the fleece - - -	0	7¼

YORKSHIRE.

At Halifax, as ſold by Wool Staplers (little Wool is grown in that Part of Yorkſhire.) The ſecond column is the Price in 1779; the firſt is the Value about a Year before.

	s.	*d.*		*s.*	*d.*
Low-price combing wool - -	0	5½	- -	0	3½
Hog and weather wool mixed	0	9¼	- -	0	7
Superfine clothing - - - -	1	7	- -	1	6
Second ditto - - -	1	2	- -	1	0½
Third ditto - -	0	8	- -	0	6¾
Fourth ditto - -	0	6	- -	0	4

Incloſures and artificial graſſes have introduced large ſheep, and have, in ſome parts of England, diminiſhed the quantity of fine wool; this is the caſe in parts of Shropſhire.

ſhire. The fineſt wool of that county is at Morf near Bridgnorth, and at the Wrekin; the fleece is about 1lb. and an half. This year, 1784, it ſold at 24s. per ſtone of 14lb. ſometimes it is as low as 18s. a guinea, or 1s. and 6d. per lb. is the average. It is ſaid to be as good as any in England, except that of Roſs in Herefordſhire, which riſes as high as 2s. 6d. per lb. The woolſtaplers at Shrewſbury ſort their wool into nine parts, from 6d. to 2s. 2d. per lb. all for clothing, the 6d. per lb. for liſting or edging; but the introduction of artificial graſſes has not diminiſhed the fine flocks on the South Downs of Suſſex, notwithſtanding more of the Downs are plowed than were formerly. Artificial graſſes, rape, turneps, and other improvements in huſbandry, enable the farmers to keep larger flocks. The ſtaple, perhaps, is not quite ſo fine as it was, in conſequence of the ſheep's living on coarſer food, but the beſt wools ſell ſome years as high as 40s. per tod of 32lb.

As to the price of wool in Ireland, we are told, that the medium price from 1703 to 1729,

1729, was 6s. 6d. per ſtone; alſo that Iriſh wool and yarn, on a medium of eight years, ending 1728, was worth 10s. and 4d. per ſtone; and that fine wools in Ireland, in the year 1743, ſold for 16s. per ſtone, the medium 12s. which was above the medium of Engliſh.

Middle prices of Wool, in the Fleece, in Ireland.

		Iriſh, per ſtone of 16lb.				
		s.	*d.*		*s.*	*d.*
1770,	from	14	0	to	15	0
1771,	—	14	6	—	15	6
1772,	—	15	0	—	16	0
1773,	—	15	0	—	16	0
1774,	—	14	0	—	16	0
1775,	—	16	0	—	17	0
1776,	—	17	0	—	18	0
1777,	—	17	6	—	18	6
1778,	—	10	6	—	11	6

The fall in 1778 was owing to the ſtagnation of credit, and to the demand of bay yarn from England being decreaſed.

But the friends of the woollen fabrics of Ireland, inſtead of inflaming and diſturbing the manufacturers with extravagant notions and miſchievous expectations of protecting duties, would do more ſervice by ſhewing the advantage of carrying their art to higher perfection. Improvements in the ſeveral manufactures might do much for them, but prohibitions of Britiſh would debaſe Iriſh manufacture; the preſent imperfect modes would be confirmed, the progreſs towards Engliſh perfection would be checked, the manufacturer would be careleſs of his workmanſhip, thinking he had a monopoly of the market, ſtrength would be given to combination. Yet thoſe who can afford to wear fine and good cloth, would have it at any rate, nor will they be forced to wear imperfect manufactures; and, to prevent a contraband introduction, in ſome ſhape or other, of what is good, would be impoſſible. The only means of recommending the Iriſh manufacture, and of obtaining a ſure market, at leaſt at home, will be, by a greater attention to its excellence; the only certain and proper way of excluding Engliſh manufactures from the Iriſh market will be by attaining an equality

lity of perfection. It would inſure, at leaſt the home market, as far as the quality and quantity of wool would enable it to go. For the Iriſh manufacture is, in general, more hurt by the ſlovenlineſs of the work than by the price of the wool. Suppoſing the price of labour the ſame in both countries, the carriage of woollens through England, the freight, duties, and commiſſion, ſurely are more than equal to the difference of price of wool; but as to the fine manufactures, in which Spaniſh wool alone, or chiefly, is uſed, they might have every advantage in Ireland as elſewhere. Indeed, at preſent, Ireland finds it convenient to import her Spaniſh wool through London, paying double freight and double commiſſion; but that is no reaſon for laying prohibitory duties, as thoſe propoſed on every ſpecies of Britiſh clothes would prove; nor is it fair ground for non-importation agreements. In ſhort, to loſe time and exertions for any other extent of the manufacture than what is now pointed at, at leaſt until there is more of the material, does not appear very wiſe.

But

But the firſt ſtep towards amendment ſhould be by tempting the principal woollen manufacturers from the metropolis, the ſeat of licentiouſneſs, drunkenneſs, diſorder and expence, where the manufacturers are always liable to be made the idle tools of turbulent and intereſted men. No manufactures ſhould be there, but thoſe that immediately depend on varying taſte, and ſhould be under the eye of the ſhopkeepers. There is no change of faſhion in the woollen manufactures that might not be attended to at a diſtance. By removing the manufacture of fine woollens from Dublin, it will be lightened of the extraordinary expence, diſſipation, and irregularity of the capital, and of the bad effects of combinations, and the manufacturers will be ſaved the time and trouble of controuling the commercial intereſts of the kingdom. Why ſhould they not be invited by advantages to the new city that has been deſerted by the Genevans? The ſituation is good for trade, and it would not there interfere with the linen manufacture; but there are many ſituations that would be good; any would be better than the preſent. It is deſirable that it ſhould not be in large cities,

cities, but in towns or large villages, not very far diſtant from each other. When the whole of a manufacture is brought together, combination is ſure to be the conſequence; and generally extraordinary numbers collected together raiſe the price of proviſions beyond their level or natural price, and the country is not ſo generally benefited as when the people are more diſperſed. The ſtile of the Yorkſhire manufactures ſeems beſt for Ireland. They are moſtly of wool the growth of the kingdom, and they are of that ſort of fabric beſt adapted to the Iriſh trade.

It is very extraordinary that there ſhould not be wool ſtaplers in Ireland; and in this there appears a capital defect in the outſet of the manufacture.

There are perſons called wool merchants, who purchaſe from the grower; but, in general, they ſell the wool again without ſorting it. It is the wiſh and practice of the clothier to buy in the fleece. He gains thereby, as he thinks the profit of the wool merchant and the opulent manufacturer oppreſſes the poorer

poorer clothier, by being able to purchaſe large quantities from the grower. He ſells to him what is left, after taking what he wants for himſelf; but his oppreſſion does not always anſwer to him. He is often embarraſſed to get rid of the part he cannot uſe, which is not properly ſorted for the poorer man, who, when he buys it, finds a variety of ſorts not fit for his line of buſineſs, which become an incumbrance to him, and, in failure of ſale, he is obliged to work it up himſelf, which throws him out of his line of buſineſs, or forces him to a mixture of wools, to the injury of his manufacture. It is a defect, that the ſame perſon ſhould go through the whole proceſs, from purchaſing the wool from the grower to the finiſhing of the piece; the manufacture conſiſting of ſuch variety of branches, all of which requiring great ſkill and attention, is more than the ſame perſon ſhould undertake.

It appears from the Report of the Committee of the Iriſh Parliament, appointed laſt ſpring, to inquire into the ſtate of manufactures, that ſorted wool is nearly as dear again in Ireland as in England, and that

that there is not ſuch diſproportion in the prices of fleece wool. It appears from hence how much wool ſtaplers in the ſame ſtile as in England are wanted in Ireland, who purchaſe the wool from the grower, and ſort it into different parts or degrees of fineneſs to ſuit the different manufactures. The advantage of this is obvious, that the wool ſtaplers can afford to ſell it cheaper, and that the wool will be better prepared for the purpoſe wanted, and all of a ſort. The poor manufacturer buys his ſmall quantity on the ſame terms as the rich, and ſupplies his immediate want, without being incumbered with more than he has preſent occaſion for. It is very eſſential that there ſhould be well-regulated cloth halls for the ſale of the goods, near which wool ſtaplers generally reſide, and the manufacturers are accommodated with wool without additional expence or loſs of time, when they attend the cloth market.

Cloth halls in England are markets as well as repoſitories for cloth; and, indeed, for almoſt all ſorts of woollens, and are regulated as well for the advantage and diſ-

patch of the ſeller as of the buyer, where the goods are ſold by wholeſale. If the manufacturer reſides at a diſtance too great to attend the ſale of his goods, he conſigns them to one of the factors (of which there are many) who belong to the hall. They are perſons of ſuch property as to be able to advance to the manufacturer, if required, a ſum of money at intereſt, upon the ſecurity of the goods depoſited, which, when ſold, they repay themſelves, with the proper and ſtated charges and commiſſion. Thus the poorer manufacturer is enabled to proceed with his buſineſs upon a very ſmall capital; but ſuch of the manufacturers as can wait the return of the ſales, are ſubject only to the commiſſion for ſelling. This is the caſe at Blackwell Hall in London, where few, if any, attend the ſale of their own goods, the diſtance being too great for any manufacturing county; but at the Cloth halls of the towns in the manufacturing counties, as at Leeds, the manufacturers have the opportunity, and do always attend themſelves; and there are ſtated days and hours of ſale, which are on the uſual days of markets for proviſions, &c. The

halls

halls in the country are moſtly for the ſale of rough cloth; the buyers or merchants are the dreſſers or finiſhers of thoſe cloths; they receive commiſſions, and at the halls can get the aſſortment they want in a very ſhort time. The goods are paid for in money or bills, after having undergone a cloſe inſpection (called perking) by hanging them up againſt the light; if too thin in any part, if there are defects of any kind, they are immediately ſeen, and ſtoppages are made from the manufacturer. The cloth becomes the property of the merchant, who, undoubtedly, finiſhes well for his own emolument.

How very advantageous ſuch halls would be to the manufacturer, and to the rendering more perfect the manufacture of Ireland, is obvious. It ſeems eſſentially neceſſary to encourage the makers of rough cloth * to ſettle in proper places, and to oblige them

* Rough-cloth makers in England are clothiers in the firſt ſtages of the buſineſs; they buy their wool from the ſtapler, manufacture it at their dwellings, and ſell it at the cloth halls when milled. They for the moſt part

them, or make it their intereſt, to ſell their cloth rough from the mill in the proper market,

hold ſufficient land to afford them mantainance for a cow and horſe, and a garden for vegetables, which they till themſelves. The whole family is engaged, and if they are not ſufficient themſelves, they hire ſervants to card, ſpin and weave. The uſe of a horſe is to take their cloth to the mill, thence to the hall, and return with wool and marketing. As a ſmall capital will ſet up a rough maker, ſo they are very numerous, and are diſperſed through the country.

As every Rough maker has within his own family and under his own eye, the ſeveral operations of ſcribbling, ſpinning and weaving, and his return of profit depending upon the quality of his cloth when finiſhed, it is to be preſumed that he endeavours to bring it to the ſtage in which he ſells it as prefect as he is able; as he lays himſelf out to make but one ſort of cloth, in which his people are practiſed, he is more likely to ſucceed in making a good manufacture. And another inducement to enſure good work, is that his cloth muſt undergo a cloſe inſpection before it is paid for, and large deductions made for defects, or be returned upon his hands.

In thoſe branches the children even of the family can find employment; they are initiated and kept to induſtry from their infancy; and as by this mode of doing buſineſs, all advantages which the manufacturers can afford centering within themſelves, together with the helps from their

ket, or cloth hall, which ſhould be built in ſome conſiderable place, and certain privileges

their piece of land; they work cheap, and find comforts which others are unacquainted with. And being thus diſperſed throughout the country, they have not the ſame opportunity of aſſembling as thoſe in towns or cities, to form combinations or regulations of their own, which are ever found to be the great bane to manufactures.

But in Ireland there are very few Rough-cloth makers profeſſedly, a few in the country do occaſionally ſend rough cloths to Dublin; but as the attendance of the ſale is expenſive and uncertain, the practice is diſcouraging. Clothiers in Dublin for the moſt part go through the whole proceſs; they give out the wool, after they have prepared it, to a maſter or undertaking ſpinner, to whom he pays per ſkain for ſpinning. This perſon employs hands to work under him and undertakes for every one who will employ him; he receives a variety of work, ſome coarſe ſome fine, upon which his hands being occaſionally changed from one to another, cauſes an unevenneſs which is prejudicial to the manufacture, and as the undertaker's employment depends upon the quantity he gets done for little money, the ſcribbling branch (which is extremely material) is for the moſt part ſlighted. The clothier gets home the ſpinning, and then gives it out to an undertaking weaver, who is paid per yard according to the fineneſs. Thoſe operations being done out of the clothier's ſight, and the undertakers not being perſons of any property, and generally in ſtrong combination, no recovery can be had

leges might be granted, at leaſt for a time. The Rough-cloth makers will ſettle in the neighbourhood, and that the manufacturers may not be diſcouraged from going to diſtant ſituations, as Ireland is fond of bounties on inland carriage, a ſmall premium might be allowed on the carriage of all goods received at the hall according to the diſtance; ſomething, perhaps, might be ſpared from the bounty on the inland carriage of corn. No mode appears ſo likely to extend the manufacture into the country, and prevent combination, as to induce perſons who are ſkilled in the firſt ſtages of the buſineſs, and will practiſe the moſt improved methods to carry on the manufacture, as in England,

had for neglect or bad work in any of thoſe branches, and the maſter clothier muſt receive it in whatever ſtate they pleaſe to bring it home.

From this practice it may be conceived that neither cheap nor good manufacture can be obtained in the firſt ſtages or ground work of the buſineſs: nor will the work people in general admit of either machine or method to facilitate labour or amend the fabric. For twenty pounds a rough-cloth maker may be ſet up with one loom, ſcribbling frame and cards, four or five ſpinning wheels and other neceſſary articles.

from the wool to the mill, and diſpoſe of it in that ſtate, to which a ſafe repoſitory for their goods, and a certain and ſpeedy return muſt be their inducement. This mode is alſo preferable, becauſe a very ſmall capital, viz. 20l. will ſet up a rough-cloth maker, and not leſs than 300l. will ſet up a clothier to go through the whole proceſs, and that in a confined way: there is certainty that one will become more general than the other, and alſo a certainty that the manufacture, by ſuch means, would be better, becauſe the emolument of the maker will depend on its quality, which muſt be better known in its rough ſtate, than when diſguiſed by dreſſing, fine drawing, and preſſing. The perſons who are the moſt numerous and moſt reſtive are employed in the ſcribbling, the ſpinning, and the weaving. By diſperſing them throughout the country the knot will be broke, and, in a ſhort time, they would be brought to better practices. If rough-cloth halls were eſtabliſhed, the merchants of Ireland would be enabled, in a ſhort time, to compleat their orders, which they cannot do at preſent either with convenience or with certainty of giving ſatisfaction. After they have

received

received their orders, the goods are to be beſpoke and waited for; which, when finiſhed, may not be well manufactured; yet they are ſent abroad; and even if they did not go out of the iſland, the manufacture is diſcredited.

Nothing can point out more clearly the advantage of regular ſtated places of ſale than the Kilkenny fair for the frize trade, which, though diſtant from both buyer and ſeller, and attended with inconvenience to each, yet being a certain place of meeting for them, ſeldom fails to anſwer the expectations of both. Machines of the beſt conſtruction might be iſſued from theſe halls, and ſold to the manufacturers, making the payment eaſy to them through the means of their factors.

As to the imperfection of the manufacture of Spaniſh or fine wool, Ireland can only blame herſelf. Till ſhe could make ſufficient for her own people, and ſuch as they would wear, ſhe had no pretenſions to ſucceſs at a foreign market. With proper management, ſhe might make it as cheap and as perfect as England, as both countries import

port the raw material; but ſhe does neither at preſent, and particularly in the important branch of finiſhing, ſhe is very deficient. She has much to do before ſhe will rival her neighbours in this branch; ſhe muſt not depend too much on her advantages as to the price of proviſions or price of labour, they are of much leſs conſequence than habits of induſtry and intelligence in trade, and character, and correſpondence, when foreign trade is in queſtion. *

Her importations of Spaniſh wool have been unequal.

Year ending 25th March.

	Cwt.	
1774 —	210 —	48 of which only was imported from Spain, the reſt from Britain.
1775 —	96 —	41 of which only was imported from Spain, the reſt from Britain.

* It is ſuppoſed that the conſumption of fine woollens has in part decreaſed in Ireland, from the ſame cauſe as in England, namely, the introduction of Mancheſter manufactures of cotton, which are worn as cloathing, and ſo generally for waiſtcoats and breeches.

	Cwt.	
1776 —	328 —	155 of which only was imported from Spain, the reſt from Britain.

And,

1783 —	261 *,	none from Spain, 5 from Flanders, the reſt from Britain.

But tbe woollen manufacture of Ireland ſeems to be taking the moſt natural and beſt turn. The new drapery branch advances rapidly. It conſumes the wool of the country. It is leſs difficult in many branches, and requires leſs ſkill than the ſuperfine broad cloths. It has been already ſhewn that the importation of new drapery decreaſes, and that the exportation is become very conſiderable †.

The amount of the conſumption of woollens in Ireland we cannot know, but it is very great;

* 261 cwt. at 2¾lb. to the yard, would make 12,992 yards. That is about the quantity uſed in a yard of Engliſh ſuperfine, but it is a full allowance where only Spaniſh wool is uſed.

† When a parcel of wool is not fit for broad cloth, it is applied to the manufacture of worſteds, the fineſt part to hoſe, and to worſteds for mixing with ſilk, viz. poplins

great; and, perhaps, no country whatever, in proportion to its number of inhabitants, conſumes ſo much. The lower ranks are covered with the clumſieſt woollen drapery, and although the material may not be fine, there is abundance of it. Beſides coat and waiſtcoat, the lower claſſes wear a great coat, both ſummer and winter, if it can poſſibly be got. Not only their clothing but their ſtockings ſeem to contain a double quantity of wool, and the women among the peaſantry ſeem

lins and tabinets, from 1s. 3d. to 6s. 6d. per yard. crapes from 1s. 2d. to 4s. per yard. The greater part of the combing wool is conſumed in worſted for making

	Per yard.	
Shaloon, ---	6d. to 2s. 8d.	Called new drapery in the book of rates.
Callimanco, --	9d. to 2s. 2d.	
Everlaſting, - -	1s. 3d. to 4s.	
Satinet, --	2s. to 4s.	
Camblet, --	10d. to 1s. 8d.	
Stuffs, broad and narrow, ſingle and double,	6d. to 1s. 6d.	
Pluſh, -- --	8d. to 3s. 6d.	
Worſted Crapes --	7d. to 9d.	

In many of theſe branches Ireland excels; her poplins and tabinets are beautiful, eſpecially as to colour; but as they have the appearance of ſilk, and in great part are made of it, they ſhould more properly be ranked under that article.

to depend on other charms than elegance or ornament; they alſo wear the clumſieſt woollens. There is no intention of inſinuating that they always wear ſtockings, but that which covers their perſons, and their petticoats, and alſo their cloke, if they have one, contain much wool, and all of the moſt gloomy colours; linen or cotton gowns are ſeldom to be ſeen among the common peaſantry of Ireland.

There ſeems little doubt of there being at leaſt three millions of inhabitants in Ireland. Perhaps, we have not a better mode of judgeing of their number than from the hearth-money tax, which ſome years amounts to above 60,500 l. of which about 36,000 l. are paid by houſes of one hearth, which, at two ſhillings each hearth, make 360,000 houſes. The well-known diſpoſition of the Iriſh to increaſe, and their eſtabliſhed character in that reſpect, cauſes it to be generally allowed, that at leaſt ſix may be reckoned to each cottage. Mr. Young's minutes make it near 6 ½. The above number of houſes with one hearth, multiplied by ſix, makes 2,160,000. If we allow for the remaining 25,500 l. or 255,000 hearths,

hearths, only 840,000 inhabitants, we have three millions; and if that is thought too many, we muſt mention the inhabitants of the houſes which are excuſed the tax on account of their poverty.

But if we knew the number of inhabitants, there would be difficulty in ſettling the quantity they wear of woollens *; and it can only be aſſerted that they conſume a great quantity, and more in proportion than their neighbours. The lower ranks of men in the ſouthern parts of England uſe little; a coat or great coat they ſeldom wear; but inſtead of them a frock or rather ſhirt of brown or white linen, which covers all. It keeps out more rain and weather than could be expected, but, when wet, it muſt be worſe than woollen. It is ſome objection alſo, that the material comes from Ruſſia.

More attention has been given to the woollens, as an article extremely intereſting, and

* Four or five pounds of wool for clothes, ſtockings and hat, conſidering how coarſe and heavy the common woollens are, might not be too much, and it would amount to a large quantity.

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concerning which both Ireland and England are apt to be alarmed: moſt of the late diſcontents were among this branch of the manufacturers in Ireland, but they were nearly confined to thoſe of the woollen branch in Dublin. In general, the apprehenſions for the woollen manufacture in this country are confined to the weſt of England; and while the manufacturers loſe time in complaints againſt imaginary or exaggerated ſmuggling of ſheep and fine wool from hence, they ſeem to paſs over the principal cauſes of the decline of their manufacture: firſt, the migration of it to the Weſt Riding of Yorkſhire, where, within a ſhort time, fabrics of Spaniſh and fine wools have begun to flouriſh. And, ſecondly, the uſe of Mancheſter goods in many articles wherein ſuperfine woollens were formerly uſed.

SILK MANUFACTURE.

We now come to one of thoſe manufactures relative to which, notwithſtanding the aſſumed principle, that Iriſh cannot rival

rival Britiſh manufactures, it may be difficult to make an arrangement ſatisfactory to both countries, or which will ſuit the reſpective intereſts of each. Under this deſcription may be included all manufactures, the materials of which do not pay the ſame duties on import into the two countries: and here it ſhould be explained, that when the term, "equal duties" is uſed, it would be a partial conſtruction to refer merely to the duty now paid on the importation of the manufacture from Britain into Ireland, or from Ireland into Britain. The duties on the materials ought to be taken into the conſideration; for example;

	s.	*d.*
Thoſe on the import of raw ſilk into Britain from all foreign countries are on the great pound of 24 oz.	4	6
On thrown ſilk from the ſame the pound of 16 oz. - - - - -	7	6
On raw ſilk into Ireland from foreign countries, the great pound of 24 ounces, - - - -	1	0
On thrown ſilk into Ireland from foreign countries, pound of 16 oz.	2	0½

On

	s.	d.
On raw silk from Britain in Ireland only, 10½d. There is a charge undrawback in Britain of 10½d.	1	9
On thrown silk from Britain in Ireland, 1s. 9d. Charge undrawback in Britain, 10d.	2	7

It is remarkable that notwithstanding raw silk coming through Britain into Ireland, is loaded with 9d. per pound, and thrown silk 6d. besides commission and carriage more than if imported from foreign parts into Ireland, yet very nearly the whole of her importation of silk is from Britain, which is to be accounted for principally by a credit she found here which she could not so easily obtain from Italy. It should be the policy of Britain to allow silk to go from hence without any charge on it.

The silk manufactures of Ireland are by no means to be despised; nor has she reason to despond, if they were much inferior to what they are. It did not appear probable twenty-five years ago, that Paisley, in Scotland, could ever arrive at any formidable

competition with Spitalfields. At that time the former had no ſilk manufacture, but now ſhe makes gauzes to the yearly value of near 400,000l. and Spitalfields makes little indeed. Hence it appears, that a rich country in poſſeſſion of a manufacture, of ſkill, and of induſtry, cannot always maintain herſelf againſt a poor country. Happily under the union of England and Scotland, the migration of the gauze manufactory from Spitalfields to Paiſley is not to be lamented. Paiſley affords her gauzes cheaper than any part of the world, and furniſhes all Europe, and even France with them.

Many of the ſilk manufactures of Ireland are excellent; her white damaſks and her luteſtrings are very good; her ſilk pocket-handkerchiefs are, at leaſt, as good as any; her mixtures of ſilk are beautiful; her colours excel thoſe of England; her tabinets and poplins are well known and admired every where.

It is computed that there are 1500 ſilk manufacturers in Dublin. From the following account of raw and thrown ſilk imported at two different periods, it appears, that the ma-

nufactures of ſilk in Ireland are very conſiderably increaſed, though not equal to her conſumption, for the importation of manufactured ſilk has alſo increaſed conſiderably. Non-importation agreements have probably had little effect; if the importation of the following year did not make full amends, a private introduction of the article had ſupplied what was wanting.

The quantity of ſilk imported into Ireland on an average of three years, ending 25th March, 1773:

	lbs.	oz.
Ribbands	557	15⅓
Manufactured ſilk	15,786	7⅔
Raw ſilk	41,793	21½
Thrown, died	96	14
Ditto, undyed	44,650	13½

The quantity of ſilk imported * into Ire-

* Five years average quantity of raw and thrown ſilk imported into England, viz. 1779, 80, 81, 82, and 83, with the amount of duties thereon:

	lbs.		s. d.	l.	s. d.
Upon the great pound of 24oz.	599,563	at	4 6	134,901	16 6
Organzine, 16oz.	428,199	at	7 4	157,006	6 0
				291,908	2 6

land

land, on an average of three years, ending 25th March, 1783:

	lbs.	oz.
Ribbands	1,864	0
Manufactured ſilk	22,626	3½
Raw	51,029	1
Thrown, dyed	273	4¾
Ditto, undyed	63,496	13½

There appears from the cuſtom-houſe books to have been no exportation of ſilks, or mixtures of ſilks, till the year 1781.

An account of ſilk, and mixtures of ſilk and worſted, exported from Ireland for three years:

1781.

	lbs.	oz.
Ribbands	13	8
Manufactured ſilk	430	3½
Thrown, dyed	25	0

1782.

Ribbands	19	4
Manufactured ſilk	370	3

1783.

Ribbands	514	14
Manufactured ſilk	3,329	9
Thrown, dyed	309	0
Manufactured, mixed	2,064	12

The principal importation of manufactured ſilks into Ireland from Britain, are gauzes, ribbands, alamodes; ſatins, plain and figured; perſians, ſarcenets, brocades of all kinds, and ſeveral other articles. The quantity of manufactured ſilk that came from other countries has been very trifling.

MANUFACTURE OF COTTON.

This manufacture can hardly be ſaid to have been above four or five years in Ireland, yet it ſeems already to have taken root, and to be well eſtabliſhed. It is computed that near 30,000 people * are employed in it. If it be true, its progreſs indeed has been rapid; but it cannot be ſuppoſed that the fabrics of Mancheſter are already rivalled, except it ſhould be in the home conſumption of Ireland. It is ſaid in that country, that although the Engliſh manufacture, where cot-

* The number of perſons employed in the counties of Lancaſhire, Cheſhire, Derbyſhire, Nottinghamſhire, and Leiceſterſhire, in the manufacture of cotton, is eſtimated at 500,000, including women and children.

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ton alone is uſed, be not only better and cheaper than that of Ireland, yet the Iriſh mixtures of cotton and linen are better and cheaper than the Engliſh. It may be doubted, but there is great reaſon to believe that the cotton manufacture is well fixed in Ireland, and it is to be hoped, ſuperior to untoward accidents, or ſuch circumſtances as ſometimes overſet newly-eſtabliſhed fabrics. The bounty of Parliament has been liberally extended to encourage and ſupport this manufacture; it has conſequently been eſtabliſhed in different and diſtant parts of the kingdom *. The principal eſtabliſhment of this manufacture is at the new town called Proſperous, in the county of Kildare, on the borders of the bog of Allen, now a conſiderable place, but where there was only one ſmall cottage four years ago. It is well built; and the whole eſtabliſhment ſeems much better regulated than could have been expected in ſo ſhort a time †. It is to the activity

* One perſon in Dublin within three years made 95 carding machines, 394 ſpinning jennies for 70 threads each, and above 50 ſpinning jennies for wool.

† The price of labour at Proſperous is from 8d. to 14d., average 10d. A great number of women and children are

activity, zeal and ſpirit of Captain Brooke, that the country owes this foundation, ſo judiciouſly placed at a diſtance from a great town, and alſo the works near Celbridge. Balbrigen in the county of Dublin having the advantage of an intelligent and active landlord, has already a very conſiderable manufacture of cotton; the principal buildings are on a large ſcale, well executed, and ſeemingly well adapted, and the machinery in general very good. The activity of individuals aſſiſted by Parlaiment has eſtabliſhed

are employed; women 6d. per day or more, children from 1d. to 3d. per day. A good man ſpinner at the jennies will earn from 6s. to 12s. per week, women from 4s. 6d. to 9s. The weavers do not earn more than the ſpinners. The work people about the bleach green have 6s. or 7s. per week. The printers gain about a guinea, and at taſk work about a guinea and a half per week. The number of inhabitants are already about 3000. There are five different out-factories. A great number of people are employed in the counties of Meath and Wicklow, where there are ſpinning jennies and carding machines. It is debt which generally induces Engliſhmen to go to Ireland to work at theſe fabrics; and they are generally not of the moſt ſober and ſteady kind; but they teach or inſtruct. Their diſoluteneſs or unſteadineſs prevents their remaining long there.

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conſiderable works in ſeveral parts of the kingdom *.

If the cotton manufacture ſhould continue to make the progreſs it has done lately in England, it bids fair to be the principal manufacture of the country. It will bear a great extenſion. Scotland, whoſe intelligent and ſteady people are ſo well diſpoſed to manufactures, has, within two years, made an aſtoniſhing progreſs in it, particularly in the muſlins. There are already five cotton mills erected in Scotland; and, in the city of Glaſgow alone, above 1000 looms have been ſet up in the laſt year in the muſlin branch. The late tax, however, upon cotton goods, is likely to prove diſtreſſing, and, indeed, nothing can be ſo impolitic as that ſyſtem which ſeizes upon infant manufactures, and wreſts them from the hands of the induſtrious.

* The pleaſure of ſeeing children advantageouſly employed in theſe works, was greatly diminiſhed by learning that part of them work all night, even ſo young as five or ſix years old, and the wages ſo low *as ſix pence per week*, and from that price to thirteen pence per week, in ſome places. The machinery moves ſmoother, if kept conſtantly at work; it therefore goes day and night, and conſequently requires conſtant attendance.

The

The field for this manufacture is ſo large, that the competition of different countries is not likely immediately to check the extenſion of it, in thoſe which now poſſeſs the fabric: at all events Ireland will have her ſhare. The manufacture is as ſuitable to her as to any country. The raw material may, in general, be obtained nearly at the ſame price in Ireland, in Britain, and in France; and ſo far the competition will be fair; but the burdens of Britain give Ireland an advantage. The price of cotton in Ireland was lately about 18d. Engliſh, which is about an halfpenny dearer than it was in France; but at preſent cotton is dearer in France than in Britain*; the value of the labour, however, is ſo much greater than that of the raw material,

* A book of French patterns of cotton manufactures exhibits a great variety, and looks neat, when oppoſed to a book of Engliſh patterns; yet there is a great difference in the workmanſhip in favour of the latter. France however is taking every ſtep to rival and ſurpaſs our cotton mannfactures: it was therefore not the happieſt moment for taxing them. The French have got our ſpinning machines for cotton, and if they have as much of the ſpirit of manufacture and of ſteadineſs, they will be able, from the lower price of labour, to underſel us.

rial, that the difference of price is of no conſequence, even in the velverets or heavieſt goods.

And

us. Rouen was on the verge of ruin from the ſuperiority of the Mancheſter goods, but now begins to revive again. The Swiſs printed cottons are at preſent much in vogue, and are cheaper than ours, though not ſo handſome in general. Two mills on Arkwright's plan are now erecting in the neighbourhood of Rouen: they have already moſt of his machinery; and leſt capital ſhould be wanting, government ſupplies to a great amount; and Mr. Holker, whoſe abilities this country ſo fooliſhly loſt, is at the head of the manufacture, with a conſiderable penſion from the Court of Verſailles. Spinning machines are alſo ſet up in the neighbourhood of Lyons, where the people are rich and induſtrious. The late taxes on cotton manufactures add to the evil, and muſt, if perſevered in, with the other taxes on manufactures in the end ruin the trade of this country. They ought to be all removed and laid on any thing elſe rather than upon the fruits of induſtry. No man will ſtruggle to reduce the price of his manufacture, when he knows that as ſoon as he has done it, the price will be enhanced again by a tax; nor will ingenious men bear the thoughts of an Exciſeman prying into all his works. All means are uſed to prevent the exportation of cotton from France; yet it is now higher at Bourdeaux than in England, from the prodigious conſumption of that article in their manufactures. It is now three half-pence per pound dearer in France. Common or

And this brings to our recollection the ſuperiority of the cotton over the ſilk and other manufactures, in which the raw material is the principal part of the expence. Every manufacture is valuable in proportion to the price of the finiſhed work, when compared to the price of the raw material, or in proportion to the increaſed value of property created by the labour of a given number of people *. It is preferable to purſue this prin-

middling French cotton, which at preſent in England ſells at 16d. per pound, is at 17d. and St. Domingo cotton 18⅞d.

Demerara cotton in England is at 21½d. per pound, Grenada cotton at 15¼d. beſt Grenada and picked cotton ſell at 19½d. but the price of cotton fluctuates more than moſt articles. The ſtaple of Demerara is the longeſt and beſt, and is adapted for muſlins and fine goods. Eaſt-India cotton, if it were permitted, and could be afforded, that is, if the freight was not too high, would be of the greateſt advantage to our manufacturers, and enable them to equal the cotton manufactures of the Eaſt. It is ſome ſatisfaction to know, that the white goods of France are, and ever will be, much inferior to ours, in point of colour; owing, as is ſuppoſed, to the difference of water and air. As yet, the French ſpin 50 hanks at the higheſt to the pound; we exceed 100 by means of our machinery.

* A dyed velveret, one of the moſt important articles, paſſes, from the raw material to a finiſhed ſtate, through the

principle by a leſs advance of capital than by a larger; which reaſoning will apply and hold good in all places, but poſſibly in none more than in Ireland, which is ſaid to ſtand much in need of capital. The following example may help to prove the ſuperior advantage of the cotton.

Thrown ſilk *, of 16 ounces to the pound, given to be dyed, produces 11 ounces when fit for the loom, and cleared of gum, &c. and is worth 40 ſhillings. It will produce (ſuppoſe exactly) 9 yards of luteſtring, which, at 6s. per yard, amounts to 54s. or fourteen ſhillings advance, from the firſt coſt; and allowing to the mercer only 6s. for his profits,

the following different proceſſes, viz. Batting, picking, waſhing, drying, carding, roving, ſhebbing, ſpinning, winding, doubling, twiſting, re-winding, warping, pin-winding, weaving, cutting, ſcowering, ending, ſingeing, rubbing, bleaching, dying and making up. Theſe 23 operations are almoſt always performed in Lancaſhire, by ſo many different claſſes of artiſts. Indeed it is not unuſual for ſeveral of them to be again ſubdivided into two or more parts, and to be ſtill performed by diſtinct people.

* The greater part of the ſilk imported into Ireland is not raw.

there will remain 8s. or one fifth, for the manufacturer, or national profit; if Ireland imports annually 100,000 lbs. of raw ſilk, and ſuppoſing the profits on the other branches of this manufacture to yield an equal benefit, the amount on the whole will be 40,000l. viz. 8s. per lb. on 100,000 lbs. of ſilk; and to do this, the nation employs a capital of 200,000l. and, in addition to this, the Dublin Society give 2000l. in bounties to aſſiſt the export of this manufacture.

Now if 200,000l. capital ſtock, aided by 2000l. in bounties, produce only 40,000l. the calculation will ſtand as follows: 200,000l. at 5 per cent. intereſt, is worth 10,000l. (a year, on an average, for the manufacturing and ſale will be neceſſary) to which add 2000l., the bounty —— 12,000 l.

and, conſequently there will be left only the net ſum of } 28,000 l.

national profit for the ſupport of manufacturers.

But ſuppoſing the whole to be exported, which is implied by the bounties being taken into the calculation, then the mercer's profit of

of 6s. on each pound weight of the materials is to be taken into the eſtimate, which amounting to 30,000l., will make the groſs ſum 58,000l.

The manufacture of cotton is every way preferable; 200,000l. will purchaſe two million of pounds weight of the beſt cotton in its raw ſtate. If every pound of cotton wrought into ſtockings, fuſtians, dimities, muſlins, velverets, &c. &c. produces, on an average, ſix ſhillings and eight pence value in manufacture, which is but a low eſtimate, the amount will be 666,666l. 13s. 4d. ſterl. or 456,666l. 13s. 4d. national profit, deducting, as above, 10,000l. for intereſt, which in the other inſtance produces but 30,000l. and adding the mercer's profit only 60,000l. from which 2000l., the bounties, muſt be deducted leaving 58,000l. net. But the merchant profits on the exportation of the cotton manufactures, ſuppoſing one half only of them exported, will far overbalance the profits of the ſilk mercer, and give the preference to the cotton manufacture beyond all compariſon and competition from the ſilk. The cotton requires more labour, it employs more people,

which is one great national object. But the difference of labour is perhaps not ſo great as may at firſt be ſuppoſed; the carding and ſpinning of two millions of pounds of cotton, even by the aid of machines, will require more manual labour than the throwing and preparing of 100,000 weight of raw ſilk; the 100,000 lb. of ſilk is ſuppoſed to produce 900,000 yards of luteſtring, or other goods equivalent: the two million pounds of cotton muſt make at leaſt three million yards of cloth or of ſtockings, and other goods equivalent; the labour, on this ſuppoſition, will be as three to one, in the weaving: the dying, and the dreſſing, hardly in the ſame proportion; probably not more than two to one: but ſetting the profits of the merchant exporting only the one half of the manufactures produced from two million pounds of cotton, that is, 466,666l., 13s. 4d., againſt that of the ſilk mercer who exports the whole of the ſilk amounting to but 40,000l., ſtill there is left in favour of the cotton manufacture, from the ſame capital, a balance of 428,666l. 13s. 4d.

It ſhould be obſerved, that the raw cotton in the above calculation is valued at 2s. per lb., a price much higher than the general average from ſeven or ten years paſt, even including the years of the laſt war, which do not exceed from 17 to 18d. per lb. for fine cotton, at moſt. 200,000l. will (calculating the raw cotton at 18d. per lb., a fair eſtimate) purchaſe 2,666,666 lb., which will increaſe the balance in favour of the cotton manufacture 222,222l., and beſides employ a greater proportionable number of people.

An account of cotton wool, cotton yarn, muſlins, and manufactures and mixtures of cotton imported into Ireland, on an average of three years, ending the 25th of March, 1773:

Cotton wool,	cwt. qrs. lb.	2550	3	2¼
Cotton yarn,	lb.	2226¾		
Muſlins,	yards	194987¾		
Cravats,	yards	122		
Callicoe, ſtained,	yards	3999		
Fuſtians,	ends	9618		
Manufactures and mixtures of cotton,	value	18278l.	16s.	2d.

An account of cotton wool, cotton yarn, &c. &c. &c. imported into Ireland, on an average of three years, ending the 25th March, 1783:

Cotton wool,	cwt. qrs. lb.	3236	1	18.
Cotton yarn,	lb.	5405½		

Muſlins

Muſlins,		yards	65151
Callicoe	ſtained,	yards	1541½
	white,	yards	547⅓
Fuſtians,		yards	15012⅔
Manufactures and mixtures of cotton,		value	103119l. 8s. 5½d.

An account of the export of cotton yarn, manufactures and mixtures of cotton, from Ireland, during the three following years, none being exported before 1781:

	Cotton yarn. lb.	Manuf. and mixt. of cotton. value.	Fuſtians. yards.
1781	239	157 7 0	1108
1782	8798	414 7 6	——
1783	2436	1418 1 0	24384

IRON, AND MANUFACTURES OF IRON AND STEEL.

The uſeful and neceſſary manufacture of iron being capable, perhaps, of higher improvement and greater extenſion than any other, and being of the utmoſt national importance in every point of view, undoubtedly deſerves a volume; nor would it be an eaſy matter to point out all its advantages and all its importance. And yet that moſt eſſential buſineſs, the making of iron in Great Britain, has been in a great degree reſcued within a few years almoſt from ruin, by the ingenuity and ſpirit of a few men, who deſerve, at leaſt, as well of their

their country as any of its moſt favourite patriots.

The ſcarcity and price of wood have rendered it impoſſible to make a quantity of iron, either to enter into competition with foreign markets, or even to make a ſufficient quantity for home conſumption and manufactures; but the improvements in making good bar iron with pit coal*, the great aid given to labour, and the expences ſaved by the improved ſteam engines, afford a reaſonable hope, that in time, if no extraordinary checks

* Some kind of coals (and generally the worſt) anſwer the purpoſe of making coak much better than others.—There are ſorts of coal which, when coaked, are not ſufficiently cleanſed of their ſulphur and impurities to make a kind or malleable pig iron fit for the forges. It has not yet appeared whether the Iriſh coal is proper for making coak.—This opportunity may be taken of obſerving how ruinous the coal tax would have been to the making of iron in Britain. The quantity conſumed in that buſineſs is prodigious; one company alone in Shropſhire uſes 500 tons of coal daily.—It was the intention to have thrown up many of thoſe great works if the tax had been laid. In ſuch a caſe the whole rents of the townſhips would not have ſupported the poor; and then it may be remarked, that the late tax upon bricks ſhould not have extended to thoſe uſed in mines or manufacture works.

ſhould intervene, enough will be made in Britain to ſupply theſe kingdoms with that neceſſary article, whereby between five and 600,000l. annually, now paid to foreign countries at their ports of exportation, excluſive of the freight and other great expences, would be ſaved to the nation. This might ſeem enough to recommend it to the attention and care of the public and of the legiſlature; but it would not be merely a ſaving of a certain ſum. The employment given to ſo great a number of men ſhould not be forgotten, and in a manufacture which, on inquiry, will be found as beneficial as any, formed with materials dug out of the earth, not applicable to any other purpoſe, conſequently not interfering with any manufacture, but aſſiſting many, nor cauſing any change that may take off from other produce. When land is converted from tillage to paſture, or from wood to either tillage or paſture, there is a loſs of certain articles; but in the caſe of iron, in the making of which, ore, limeſtone, and coal are uſed, there is none. It ſhould be added, that no manufacturers pay more in exciſes than thoſe employed in this branch; and ſuppoſing 50,000 tons to be imported, and

that one man can make a ton in a year, that he pays, in exciſes of all kinds, upwards of 6l. annually, which are computed to be the caſe, there would be an increaſe of exciſe, at leaſt, to the amount of 300,000l., which would more than doubly pay the loſs to the revenue that would ariſe from the non-importation of 50,000 tons of foreign iron.

We are apt to conſider iron and bar iron as a raw material*; in the latter ſtate it is a ma-

* The author, in his Obſervations on the Commerce of the American States, fell into the ſame error, and his remarks relative to the duty on import of foreign iron were founded on the ſtate of the manufacture of iron in Great Britain about 15 years ago, previous to the late improvements. He finds that the making of iron is a greater trade than his former information had led him to believe; and as it may be ſaid to be in an infant ſtate, and undoubtedly is increaſing rapidly, it would be dangerous to give it any check at preſent: it is believed, that if the duty on the import of foreign iron was removed, many great iron works would be immediately diſcontinued, which now employ ſuch numbers of men in the manner the moſt advantageous to the country, and, at leaſt, ſave 200,000l. which otherwiſe muſt be ſent out of this country; but being ſpent and circulated among the induſtrious, a conſiderable part muſt by them be ultimately paid to the national ſupport in the exciſe on the various ar-

a manufacture far advanced, and in a mid-way ſtage from the ore to perfection. We ſhould

ticles conſumed by them. Works would be neglected, which within a few years have coſt immenſe ſums, but would become uſeleſs and of no value, to the ruin of thoſe men, who with great ſpirit have inveſted their fortunes in them, under the faith and expectation that the duties on foreign iron would continue. Theſe are weighty conſiderations; at the ſame time it ſhould be obſerved, there is a probability, that in a few years, by the exertions of ſeveral very ingenious men now engaged in the buſineſs, that we may be able fully to ſtock the market at home, which is neceſſary to put this country on a footing with foreign countries, and then we may gradually lower the duty, or rather the duty will ceaſe of courſe, as it will not anſwer to bring in iron, when it can be made in ſufficient quantities, and as cheap at home.

This much may be fairly advanced, that from the improvements that have been made, particularly from the capital improvement of coak bar iron by Meſſrs. Wright and Jeſſon, which is the method now generally practiſed, that kind of iron has been much improved in its quality; and the quantity made is greatly increaſed, and likely to be more ſo; for as nearly the ſame number of furnaces are kept up as were during the war, and few cannon are now making, the immenſe quantity of caſt iron which was annually abſorbed by theſe inſtruments, will be now converted into bar iron, and many of the cannon themſelves will be literally turned into plough ſhares, hoops, and nails — Were the duty to be taken

off

ſhould obſerve that the great conſumption of iron is in the groſs articles and not in thoſe which require the greateſt degree of manufacture. Iron has this peculiar recommendation above almoſt all other manufactures, that in every ſtage of it, its value is ſimply the product of labour, which labour is not hazardous to the lives, or prejudi-

off foreign iron at this critical conjuncture, all this trade might fall to the ground.

The ſubſtitution of ſteam engines in place of water mills to work the furnaces and forges, has much increaſed the powers of manufacturing bar iron. By whom ſteam engines were firſt applied to raiſe water for the wheels of furnaces is not known to the author; but Mr. Wilkinſon was the firſt who applied them directly to blow the furnace without the intervention of a water wheel; and Meſſrs. Boulton and Watt were the firſt that applied ſteam engines to work forge mills directly without the intervention of water wheels: they have erected ſeveral for that purpoſe, and there are one or two on the common conſtruction applied to the ſame uſe, which they perform in an inferior manner, and at a greater expence of fuel — Meſſrs. Boulton and Watt have alſo made ſeveral engines for turning mills of other ſorts, and are now making many more. The advantages of their engines conſiſt in their ſaving two-thirds of the fuel uſed to do the ſame work by common fire engines, in their being more manageable, and better conſtructed in every reſpect.

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cial to the health of thoſe employed, but, on the contrary, has been remarkably wholeſome.

From 50 to 60,000 tons of pig iron, and between 20 and 30,000 tons of bar iron are made in Britain, and the annual demand for the latter is from 70 to 80,000 tons, of which between 50 and 60,000 are imported, the value of which is ſo much money paid for foreign labour. It is computed, that Great Britain makes, at leaſt, 10,000 tons of iron more than ſhe did a few years ago, which at 16l. per ton, the preſent average price, amounts to 160,000l.; and this quantity is likely to be much more than doubled in a very ſhort period. If the demand is only 70,000 tons, the manufacturing of the whole within the country will employ 70,000 labourers, and valuing the iron only at 15l. per ton, will produce an annual profit of more than a million to the nation. But if the making of iron is not encouraged and extended, the ſum that now goes from this country for that article will be increaſed. The price of Ruſſia iron riſes very rapidly; 5 per cent. in 1784, and as great a riſe is expected in 1785. Ruſſia has

has found a vent by the Black Sea; and ſome fabrics, particularly that of Toula, which formerly ſent much to England, now ſend none.

The price muſt increaſe alſo from the immenſe deſtruction of the woods by the iron works, and by the ſlowneſs of the growth of woods, and the neglect of them in Siberia, where are the principal iron works. It is ſurpriſing, indeed, that Ruſſia can afford iron ſo cheap as ſhe does. The Abbé D'Auteroche reports, that on the ſpot, in Siberia, iron is eſtimated at leſs than 30s. Engliſh, per ton. It is all conveyed an aſtoniſhing diſtance by inland carriage, yet it is afforded at Peterſburgh at about 8s. per cwt. The beſt ſable iron comes from Neucanſkoi in Siberia; it is carried by land to the Tchuſchauwaia, which falls into the Kama, and that into the Wolga below the city of Kaſan; it then aſcends the Wolga, and is brought by the Ladoga canal to Peterſburgh. With the decreaſe of vaſſallage and increaſe of civilization, the price of labour alſo will riſe in Ruſſia. The preſent low price of iron in Ruſſia is partly accounted

accounted for by this circumſtance, that the Empreſs grants a diſtrict with the peaſantry on it, and the perſon to whom it is granted not paying for the latter, as is uſual in other countries where negroes are employed, the price of their labour is merely the expence of keeping them.

An inquiry into theſe circumſtances is neceſſary, when not only the preſent but the probable future ſtate of the iron trade ſhould be examined. The object is of the utmoſt conſequence, eſpecially to Britain. The expediency of endeavouring, on the part of Ireland, to make iron a principal manufacture of that kingdom, and of interfering with a favourite and eſtabliſhed manufacture of Great Britain, may be doubted. It will be difficult to raiſe the manufacture in Ireland in competition with that of Britain. The capital of Ireland may be otherwiſe employed to advantage, particularly in manufactures ſo advantageous and natural to her as leather, &c.; but if ſuch a competition ſhould be thought an object for the mutual advantage of the two countries, it will at leaſt be fair and reaſonable that the manufactures

factures of each ſhould be exported to all parts charged with ſimilar or equivalent duties, and this only can be deemed an equal ſettlement.

There is no article in which it will be more difficult to arrange with Ireland than on that of iron; and in conſequence of the revolutions which have taken place in America and Ireland, thoſe intereſted in the iron trade of this kingdom are alarmed; they think it is become matter of very ſerious conſideration, how far that branch of manufacture may or is likely to be affected by its new rival ſiſter, Ireland.

Ireland will not obſerve the ſpirit of her compact, if ſhe does not put the ſame duty on the export of iron wares to the American States, to which ſhe had agreed when they were dependent on England. It may be proper to ſtate, that when Ireland, in 1778, obtained a free trade to the Britiſh colonies, ſhe undertook, by the act of her own Parliament, to equalize the duties, that the Iriſh manufacturers ſhould not be able

to ſupply the colonies on better terms than the Engliſh in their reſpective branches.

The repreſentatives of the iron trade offered Ireland a participation in their branch of trade, on payment of equal duties with themſelves, the duty on bar iron being at that time very different in the two kingdoms.

It was firſt propoſed to impoſe on all foreign bar iron imported into Ireland the ſame duties as were then paid in England on the ſame articles, but this propoſal was declined. The only other method of equalizing was, by impoſing ſuch a duty on iron wares and iron exported from Ireland, as ſhould ſend them to market charged with duties equal to the Engliſh. The following calculations for the average on which the par of duty was calculated, were ſatisfactory to both parties at that time, and were deemed fair between the two countries. The gentleman who negociated for Ireland, declared himſelf perfectly ſatisfied therewith, and that he was honourably treated by the iron trade of England. A clauſe was immediately added to the

the act of Parliament then in agitation, impoſing a duty of 2l. 10s. on all bar iron; and 3l. 3s. 11d. on all iron wares exported from Ireland to the Britiſh colonies in the Weſt Indies, and on the coaſt of Africa, grounded on theſe calculations:

Calculation made in 1778, for equalizing the duty on a ton of bar iron between England and Ireland.

	£.	s.	d.
A ton of bar iron pays duty on importation into England 2l. 8s. 6d. * and draws back nothing on re-export to America or the Britiſh Weſt Indies † - - -	2	8	6
A ton of bar iron into Ireland pays 10s. Iriſh duty ‡, of which it draws back 7s. 6d. on re-exporta-			

* There is an addition to the duty on importation of bar iron into Britain ſince 1778.

† On exportation to Ireland or ſettlements in Africa, the whole is drawn back except the old ſubſidy. The ſame is now allowed to America and the plantations, on bar iron, but not on wrought iron.

‡ The ſame duty is payable on importation of iron into Ireland from all parts.

	£.	s.	d.
Brought forward -	2	8	6
tion, duty remaining is 2s. 6d. Iriſh - - -	0	2	4
Difference in favour of Ireland, Engliſh money - - -	2	6	2
Add, to make this Iriſh money -	0	3	10
Duty to be impoſed on every ton of bar iron exported from Ireland	2	10	0

Caculation for equalizing the duty on a ton of iron wares between England and Ireland, made in 1778.

30 cwt. of bar iron is, on an average, eſtimated to produce one ton of manufactured iron wares.			
30 cwt. of bar iron into Great Britain, at 2l. 8s. 6d. pays - -	3	12	9
30 cwt. ditto into Ireland, at 10s. per ton Iriſh, or 9s. 2d. Engliſh money, pays - - -	0	13	9
Difference in favour of Ireland, in Engliſh money	2	19	0

Brought

	£.	s.	d.
Brought forward -	2	19	0
Add, to make this Iriſh money -	0	4	11
Duty to be impoſed on a ton of iron wares when exported from Ireland - - -	3	3	11

An act in conformity to this calculation was ſoon after paſſed in the Iriſh Houſe of Commons, and the duties above are now in force in Ireland.

A memorial from Ireland is now before the Miniſtry, complaining of the duty impoſed on a ton of iron wares, as being taken on an unfair average, and intimating that a ton of ſplit iron, or iron hoops, do not require ſo great a quantity of bar to produce a ton of manufacture; it is true that thoſe *two* articles, and thoſe *two* only, do not require much more than 21cwt. of bar to produce a ton; but it is argued, that there is an immenſe variety of bright iron and ſteel wares, of which a ton cannot be manufactured from 30cwt. 40cwt. or even 50cwt. of bar iron; even in the article of ſmall nails, 30cwt.

of

of bar produces only 21cwt. 3q. 11lb. of manufacture. With the approbation of both parties, the average was made on one average only, to avoid a variety of calculations for different articles.

It ſeems proper here to obſerve, that the duty on a ton of bar iron into England is increaſed, ſince 1778, 7s. 7d. per ton; ſo that the true equalizing duty on Ireland ſhould now be 3l. 16s. 3d. and not 3l. 3s. 11d. The latter duty, which is now in force in Ireland, is the difference of duty on 25cwt. only of bar to a ton of iron wares; an average ſo much too low, that Britain thinks ſhe has now a right to complain as the injured country in this particular.

It would have been better, and more equal to the different manufactures of iron in Ireland, if two averages had been taken, one on nails, hoops, and other heavy articles; and another on the lighter and brighter articles of iron and ſteel wares, in which the waſte of the material is abundantly more conſiderable; and then 25cwt. perhaps would have been an equitable calculation for the groſs,

groſs, and 40 or 45cwt. for the ſmaller and bright wares, which might have prevented the claim from being made by Ireland againſt the inequality of the average.

Ireland farther ſays, that the duty of 3l. 3s. 11d. on her wares is too much, becauſe England makes a large quantity of iron, and conſequently a great proportion of her wares go out free of duty. England conſumes more than double the quantity of iron for *internal* uſes than ſhe makes; it cannot therefore be juſtly ſaid that any iron wares go out of England free of the duty paid on bar iron imported, and as Ireland can now import iron from Ruſſia conſiderably cheaper than it can be imported into England, Ireland is therefore ſupplied for its internal uſes on better terms.

The Iron maſters of Great Britain ſtrenuouſly aſſert, there will be nothing like equality or reciprocity, unleſs both countries pay the ſame duty on the importation of foreign bar iron; and that that duty ſhould not be lower than it now is in England, viz. 2l. 16s. 1d. per ton Engliſh, which is equal to

to 3l. os. 9d. Iriſh, as a reduction of that duty would tend to defeat its operation in favour of Britiſh iron works, which deſerve and require at this juncture every ſupport and encouragement from the country. Even ſuch an equalization would leave a great advantage to Ireland, as her manufactures do not pay the number of exciſes which are paid in Britain. If iron ore ſhould be wanting in Ireland, the beſt is to be had from Lancaſhire and Cumberland, and may go as ballaſt to oak bark, and be delivered in Ireland on cheaper terms than to the makers of iron in moſt parts of Britain, where this kind of ore is uſed. The tranſportation to the eaſtern coaſt of Ireland will not coſt one half of what is now paid by the iron makers at Chepſtow, and the Ports of the Severn, where great quantities of it are ſent, and through Hull to Rotheram, and other inland works; and in Scotland it is uſed at a ſtill greater expence; and if pit coal and peat or turf ſhould be wanting in Ireland*, that article

* As to the article coals, there is plenty in ſome parts of Ireland, and probably in time they may be got at as low a price as in England. The iron ore, the lime ſtone

article may be had as cheap on her eaſtern coaſt from Britain as in ſeveral parts of the latter, and much cheaper than in London, where many branches of the iron manufacture are carried on to a great extent, viz. hoops, rods, anchors, ſhip bolts, &c. It is well known that coals are above 30 per cent dearer in the Thames than in the Liffy.

While Ireland had woods, ſhe had alſo many iron works; but when the former were cut down and deſtroyed, there was of courſe nearly an end of the latter; the improvements in making iron have encouraged her to revive them; ſome ſteam engines are now erecting, and ſhe is rapidly increaſing her manufactures of iron; and as the true means of benefiting the country would be by encouraging the making of the iron, which ſhe

ſtone (the ore is generally to be found where there is coal) and coal will be found in the ſame neighbourhood, and with the help of ſteam engines and navigations (no country is better fitted for the latter than Ireland) iron works may be eſtabliſhed wherever thoſe articles can be found. Peat has been uſed in England in iron works; but furnaces are now erecting in Ireland on land abounding with iron ore and coal.

can uſe in her manufactures, the only method of eſtabliſhing that work will be by laying the heavy duty * on foreign iron imported, which will operate as a bounty in favour of her iron works. Till that is done, it cannot be expected any quantity of iron will be made there; at preſent nothing can be expected, except an emigration of Engliſh capitals to be employed in Ireland to vend foreign labour in the form of rod iron, hoops, ſheets, and heavy articles, to the prejudice of both kingdoms.

The labour of converting a ton of iron, value 14l. in Ireland, into hoops, rods, &c. will not exceed 20s., and is the whole of the profit on this capital†; which iron, if made in the country, the whole would be a national profit, being ſimply the produce of ſo much labour. In ſhort, there can be no doubt that the

* Since the additional duties of two 5 per cents, and the diſcounts (have been taken off) which makes near 8s. per ton, the Engliſh iron works have increaſed rapidly, and ſeveral thouſand tons of bar iron have been made more than were made when the duty was leſs.

† By rolling and ſlitting, iron is very little advanced from the bar; the labour is not ſo much as ten ſhillings per ton.

national

national object ſhould be to make the iron at home, and thereby ſave ſo much, and employ a great number of people; and it was thus that ſo much treaſure, formerly unknown to Britain, has been drawn from the earth. The only other ſatisfactory mode of equalization and reciprocity, will be by laying duties on exportation of iron manufactures from Ireland to all parts, equal to the charges with which they go from Britain, and this, it is ſaid, would be conſonant to the ſpirit of the compact, and in return for the participation of the plantation trade.

Thoſe concerned in the iron trade add, that if neither of theſe take place, Ireland only paying 10s. where Britain pays 56s. ſhe muſt underſel the latter in her commerce with the American States, the great mart for Britiſh iron wares *, and alſo on the continent of Europe,

* The following calculation is alſo given, to prove the advantage Ireland would have:

Calculation for iron hoops.

	£.	s.
A ton of Ruſſia iron, fit for hoops, coſt, in 1784, into London, nearly	14	10

rope, particularly Portugal, which takes moſt iron hoops *, and ſo materially in heavy iron

	£.	s.
Brought forward, - -	14	10
Waſte of metal and charge of rolling,	3	10
Coſt of a ton of hoops in London, ——	18	0
Difference of duty on a ton of bar iron in favour of Ireland,	2	7
Coſt of a ton of hoops in Dublin, —	15	13

Difference in favour of Ireland, about 15l. per cent.

Calculation of ſplit iron.

A ton of Ruſſia bar iron fit for rod iron, coſt into London, in 1784, about 14l.	14	0
Waſte of metal and charge of ſlitting, -	1	10
Coſt of a ton of rod iron in London,	15	10
Difference of duty in favour of Ireland, -	2	7
Coſt of a ton of rod iron at Dublin —	13	3

Difference in favour of Ireland between 15 and 20 l. per cent.

N. B. Theſe calculations are made, on an average, for Engliſh ports; and the compariſon is made on a ſuppoſition that coals are at the ſame price in the Iriſh ports. But the difference in the Thames and in the Liffy has been already mentioned.

* America and Portugal took two thirds of the whole export of iron wares.

wares,

wares, that ſhe muſt very rapidly ſupplant Britain in that branch of trade, unleſs the export of the manufacture is protected by a bounty which muſt exceed the duty on the import of bar iron, as 30 cwt. of the latter will, on an average, make leſs than 22 cwt. of wrought iron, and conſequently the bounty ſhould be near a third more than the duty; and they farther add, that they hope, if their equitable deſire is refuſed, and farther meaſures ſhould be neceſſary, that the legiſlature will moreover protect them, by other regulations which may be ſuggeſted. They declare alſo, that unleſs they are protected by the legiſlature, they muſt deſert the works, which have coſt millions, and migrate with their capitals to Ireland; the loſs to the nation, they ſay, it is unneceſſary for them to ſtate.

It has been already obſerved, that equality and reciprocity require that Ireland ſhould lay the ſame duties on the importation of the materials of manufacture * as are paid

* It will ſtill remain, in the opinion of many, to be examined, what compenſation ſhould alſo be made for exciſe, window lights, &c. &c.

in

in Britain, or that they ſhall be equalized on the export of the manufactures to all parts. The firſt will be objected to, on the part of Ireland, as charging her conſumption heavily and unneceſſarily; and it is objectionable on the part of this country, unleſs the duties are drawn back on exportation to Britain, and laid on importation into Britain from Ireland: otherwiſe Ireland will receive the duties or revenue ariſing on the conſumption of Britain, which the latter now enjoys. The ſecond method of equalizing, viz. by laying the ſame duties on the export of the manufacture to all parts, will, alſo, probably be objected to by Ireland, becauſe ſhe is already in poſſeſſion of the advantage of ſending out many articles to all countries, except the Britiſh plantations, charged with leſs duties than the ſame articles going from Britain; and Britain will object to this mode of equalizing, becauſe it will be eaſily evaded. It has not been, and it will not be, the policy of Ireland to enforce a very exact obſervance of ſuch cautions as may be adopted: but Britain will ſubmit her manufactures, her trade and commercial laws, to the fidelity of the Cuſtom-houſe officers of Ireland

land in this and in many reſpects — In ſhort, it is impoſſible for her to be ſecured permanently in the regulations that may be made; but when her trade is once gone in conſequence of her arrangements, and ſhe finds herſelf diſappointed, the recovery of that trade is not probable. It has been already obſerved, that equalization in general would benefit Ireland and prejudice Britain leſs than is imagined: this muſt be always underſtood under an arrangement in every reſpect reciprocal; and if Ireland really means ſuch, the more the ſubject is examined, the leſs favourable ſhe will find ſuch an arrangement*; and that the whole ſyſtem is likely to be productive of much more embarraſſment and ill temper than advantage to both countries.

Unleſs iron manufuctures go to the American States from Ireland, charged with the ſame duties and burdens as from Bri-

* In an equal arrangement of manufactures, Ireland muſt expect to give a bounty on the export of Britiſh linens, in the ſame manner as it is given in Britain on the export of Iriſh linens from thence.

tain,

tain, it is obvious, that Ireland muſt in time have the whole of this trade: and unleſs Britain obtains this equilization, ſhe ſubmits not to preſent but to certain future competition without the leaſt return.

It has been generally ſuppoſed that Ireland has great diſadvantages in working iron mines, when compared with Great Britain; but the reaſon does not appear, unleſs it ſhould ariſe from want of capital; in general it may be obſerved, that the private capitals of Engliſh manufacturers at preſent combat the purſe of Ireland, in the hands of a bountiful and liberal parliament. But if Engliſhmen will employ their capitals in Ruſſia, why ſhould they not employ them in Ireland *? Some Engliſhmen, with Engliſh capitals,

* The extravagancies, the uncommon proceedings of Ireland, and her unſettled ſtate, may reaſonably prevent it at this time; and her frequent threats of an abſentee tax do not ſeem very judicious or well calculated to promote migration to Ireland. Men will not truſt their property in a country where ſuch an arbitrary and impatient diſpoſition is ſhewn, or lay it out where it can be liable to ſuch diſadvantage and reſtraints. The author being himſelf in the predicament of an abſentee, ſhould

capitals, are erecting large works in Ruſſia for rolling, ſlitting, tinning plates, &c.

Unleſs the great improvements in making iron ſhould enable Britain and Ireland, in time, to ſupply themſelves with that article, ſurely they muſt be ſurpaſſed in the manufactures of it. At preſent Britain alone pays above ſix hundred thouſand pounds yearly for that article to foreign countries. The following account of expences on a ton of iron from

ſhould not have made this obſervation, if he ſuppoſed the tax likely to take place, or that the change of property from one country to the other would be very diſadvantageous, at a time when eſtates in England ſell at 23 years purchaſe, and under; but indeed if ſuch a tax could effectually be eſtabliſhed in Ireland, the price of land would probably fall to ten years purchaſe. No abſentee, however, would keep land there longer than he could poſſibly avoid it. Ireland would feel a ſcarcity of money, much greater than ſhe has ever experienced. As ſhe may ſometimes want money, it is not quite prudent to talk of ſuch meaſures. Engliſhmen are not very fond of lending money to Ireland; and they will be much leſs ſo, when they recollect the ſame reaſon exiſts for taxing the money of an abſentee on mortgage, as the land of an abſentee; there is this difference, indeed, that the mortgagee draws more money in proportion, and a clearer and larger income, from the country than the proprietor of an eſtate.

Ruſſia, ſhews the difference in carrying on the manufacture in the two countries. No leſs than 5l. 4s. 2d. the ton.

	£.	s.	d.
Commiſſion, lighterage, Ruſſia, cuſtom, and all other Ruſſia charges,	0	13	10
Ruſſian duty on export, -	0	9	0
† The Sound duties, - -	0	2	8
Two-third port charges, -	0	1	6
Freight and inſurance, about	0	19	0
Landing, cuſtom-houſe charges, duty to the Ruſſia Company in London, &c. &c.	0	3	0
Duty in Britain, —	2	16	1
	5	4	3

The duties on importation into Ireland from Britain, are,

On unwrought iron, 10s. per ton.
On hoops, 4s. 1d. per cwt.
On iron, ore, and cinders, $5\frac{14}{20}$ per ton.

† This Sound duty ſometimes amounts from 50l. to 100l.; and more, on a ſingle ſhip's cargo. It is an extraordinary inſtance to what nations will ſubmit through habit; but, conſidering the riſing power of Ruſſia, it may not long laſt.

Ireland

Ireland makes little bar iron; her importation of iron increaſed near a third in ten years, which proves the increaſe of her manufactures and of her conſumption, as her importations of wrought iron have in general increaſed, and not inconſiderably; but ſtill the latter are ſmall when compared with her conſumption.

On an average of three years, ending 25th March, 1773, iron imported into Ireland,

	Cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
From the Eaſt Country -	74,683	3	25½
From Britain - - - -	44,352	1	4½
Total	119,036	1	2

Ditto of iron, on an average of three years, ending 25th March, 1783:

	Cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
From the Eaſt Country*	98,488	1	9¼
From Britain - - -	74,730	0	4¾
Total	173.218	1	14

* The import into Ireland from St. Peterſburgh alone, in 1784, was 2514 tons, or 50,280 cwt.

Export from Ireland of iron and iron ware for the ſame years.

	Ironmongers' ware. Value.	Iron. Tons.	Cwt.
1771	— 29 4 9	— 9	0
1772	— 10 5 6	— 4	2
1773	— 22 13 10	— 2	4

	Hardware. Value.	Ironmongers' ware. Value.	Wrought iron. Cwt. q. lb.	Iron. Tons.	Cwt.
1781	16 3 0	253 6 3	25 0 0	0	0
1782	22 11 4	2 19 0	75 3 7	0	0
1783	213 9 6	85 3 9	359 2 0	8	1

Imports into Ireland for the year ending 25th March, 1783, of iron and iron ware.

Hardware, value	21,773	2	10½
Iron, cwt. q. lb.	164,187	1	6
Knives, No.	579,833	0	0
Mermits, No.	9,797	0	0
Pots, No.	748	0	0
Razors, No.	14,865	0	0
Sciſſars, groſe, dozens	757	9	0
Scythes, dozens	4,089	0	0
Small parcels, value	24,473	17	5½
Iron ore, tons	323	0	0

Almoſt

Almoſt the whole of the above articles were imported from Britain, except iron, which came from ſeveral countries in the following quantities:

	Cwt.	q.	lb.
From England - - -	61,943	2	0
Scotland - -	3,144	1	0
Guernſey - -	40	3	7
Jerſey - - -	136	2	14
Sweden - -	83,489	3	14
Ruſſia - -	12,873	1	21
Denmark and Norway	1,152	0	14
Eaſt Country - - -	63	0	0
Germany - - -	525	0	0
Flanders - -	728	2	14
New York - -	90	0	0

GLASS MANUFACTURE.

Since the heavy duty was laid, a few years ago, on glaſs in Britain, Ireland has made an extraordinary progreſs in that manufacture—ſhe had little of it before; but nine glaſs houſes have now ſuddenly ariſen in Ireland.—The extention of the trade of that country muſt alſo be

be conſidered as a ſpur to this manufacture, although ſhe did very little towards her own ſupply before. She ſtill imports in large quantities; but ſhe muſt ſoon have almoſt the whole of this trade to the Britiſh ſettlements and the American States. The Britiſh tax is laid in a pernicious manner on the metal; the waſte and blemiſhed part are taxed and retaxed without end; and bad ware will be ſent out to avoid the loſs. Several glaſs-houſes at Stourbridge have been given up lately *; the number in London is greatly reduced, and our exportation to the Continent, it is ſaid, is now principally confined to articles of a high price, which form but a ſmall part of the manufacture. The French, alſo, have decoyed away many of the beſt workmen, and have thereby improved their own manufacture of glaſs.—The table glaſs made in Ireland is very handſome, and apparently as good as any made in England; at the ſame time the beſt drinking glaſſes are three or four ſhillings per dozen cheaper than Engliſh. The general-increaſed conſumption in Ireland appears, from the importation of moſt articles, except drinking glaſſes, in nearly the ſame quantities,

* And alſo at Liverpool.

not-

notwithſtanding ſo conſiderable a quantity is now made in the country.

Her export of glaſs begins to be conſiderable, as appears from the following account; but in the laſt year, ending 25th March, 1784, it was greatly increaſed, — for ſhe ſent to America alone 532 dozen of bottles, and 20,736 drinking glaſſes. This, however, may be conſidered as an effort on the firſt opening of trade with the American States; and it may be doubted whether a ſpeculation of ſo much riſque will ſpeedily be repeated to the ſame extent *. The greater part of the drinking glaſſes ſhe exported in the year ending 25th March, 1783, went to Portugal.

Account of glaſs imported into Ireland, on an average of three years, ending 25th March 1773.

Bottles,	Dozens	39,768½
Caſes,	No.	2,083
Drinking,	No.	209,222
Vials,	No.	8,112
Glaſs ware,	Value	3,745l. 14s. 3d.

* Yet a principal glaſs houſe in Dublin has received orders from New York that would employ it two years.

Account of glaſs imported into Ireland, on an average of three years, ending 25th March, 1783.

Bottles,	Dozens,	42,504⅔
Caſes,	No.	2,067⅔
Drinking,	No.	22,248
Vials,	No.	4,524
Glaſs ware,	Value	3,675l. 11s. 9½d.

There was no export of glaſs from Ireland before 1780; ſince that time the export has been as follows:

	Bottles. Dozen.	Drinking. No.	Glaſs ware. Value. £.	s.	d.	Caſes. No.
1781	1892	——	35	8	10	——
1782	1738	——	172	11	0	——
1783	468	9910	——	—	—	——

EARTHEN WARE.

The ſucceſsful rivalſhip of the Britiſh glaſs manufactory in Ireland, within a very few years, ſhews the progreſs ſhe is likely to make in a ſhort period in that of earthen ware. At preſent ſhe has no very conſide-

rable

rable works, except of the coarſe kinds; but as foreign countries have imitated the Engliſh manufacture, Ireland will do it to greater advantage. There are no laws to prevent the emigration of workmen to that kingdom as there are in reſpect to foreign countries; on the contrary, the vicinity of Ireland, added to the ſameneſs of language and laws, will give great facility to emigrations whenever the Iriſh manufactures ſhall be in a ſtate to give employment to induſtry and ingenuity.

The great and extenſive earthen-ware works in England owe their eſtabliſhment, in their preſent ſuperior ſtile, to the ability and elegant taſte of Mr. Wedgwood; he may have the ſatisfaction of thinking that perhaps no one man ever gave employment to a greater number of manufacturers, or was the cauſe of a greater exportation of a manufacture ſo variouſly advantageous to his country, exhibiting at the ſame time to all parts of the world, the progreſs Britain has lately made in the beautiful as well as uſeful arts.

This manufacture maintains many thouſands of poor labouring people in ſeveral and diſtant parts of England, in raiſing the raw materials, preparing and working them. No foreign materials are employed in it; its value, therefore, conſiſts wholly in labour beſtowed upon native produce.

The freightage it furniſhes for the coaſting trade, that beſt and readieſt ſupply for the navy, is very conſiderable, and peculiarly intereſting, as the raw materials are brought from Poole in Dorſetſhire, Tinmouth, and other places, by thoſe veſſels which are employed at the proper ſeaſons, in the Newfoundland fiſhery. Theſe materials are carried coaſtwiſe to Liverpool and Hull, to the amount of many thouſand tons yearly, and from thence by river and canal navigation, to the Potteries in Staffordſhire. What is peculiar to this manufacture, and renders it ſtill more valuable is, that the wares furniſh ſome of them five or ſix times, and none leſs than two or three times as much tonnage as the raw materials (coals excepted, which are not brought by water) and are returned by a like circuitous navigation

tion to all parts of the coaſt of this iſland, from whence they are ſhipped for foreign markets. It is a known fact, that this cheap and bulky article makes a part of the cargo of almoſt every ſhip that leaves our ports: nor is it leſs remarkable, as a circumſtance of national concern, that the quantity exported amounts, according to ſome calculations, to nine-tenths, but certainly not leſs than five-ſixths of the whole produce.

But as this manufacture has riſen to its preſent magnitude and ſtate of perfection within theſe very few years, little attention has hitherto been paid for preſerving the channels open for its admiſſion into foreign markets: it has therefore been clogged with impoſts and prohibitions, more, perhaps, than any other Britiſh manufacture. In Sweden, Denmark; Brandenburg, Pruſſia, and Portugal, it is prohibited: in the latter kingdom, indeed, we are told that it will now be admitted, but on a duty of four times the value of the goods; and in the Auſtrian Netherlands, the duty is at preſent nearly three times the value of the goods. The King of Pruſſia has lately laid a double impoſt on

this manufacture, one upon its going into Dantzic, and another payable on the Viſtula, in the paſſage from Dantzic to Poland. The late edict of the Emperor*, for the prohibition of Engliſh manufactures, will give the laſt ſtroke to our exports into his dominions: In Saxony, our wares pay a very high duty: in Spain, to which our exports have been great, an impoſt has lately taken place, more than equal to the value of our cheaper ſpecies of earthen ware: in Livonia, a duty of 30 per cent. has been added to one before of 10 per cent. and in the other dominions of the Empreſs of Ruſſia, the duty is likewiſe 40 per cent. In Holland and Italy, the duties are moderate; and the demand is accordingly very conſiderable, and for our beſt goods.

Some of the above-mentioned impoſts and prohibitions have taken place, in conſequence, it is ſaid, of our partiality to Portugal wines, and our duties on foreign linen, and our prohibition of the lace of the Low Countries, an article which is ſmuggled with ſo much facility

* This edict has been ſuſpended for a few months.

that

that no prohibition can prevent its importation into this country.

Since we have loſt the monopoly of the American market, the manufacturers on the Continent have had an additional inducement to attempt rivalling us there; for which purpoſe they have hired our workmen, and taken every other ſtep in their power. The rapid improvement they have made in this manufacture ſhew that they have not laboured in vain, and that nothing leſs than our utmoſt exertions, accompanied with ſuch aſſiſtance as Government can afford, in preſerving to us the markets that are ſtill left open, and opening, where practicable, thoſe which are now ſhut, can enable us to retain, for any length of time, that ſuperiority we are at preſent in poſſeſſion of; for we have no advantage over many parts of the Continent either in the goodneſs or cheapneſs of our materials, and labour (which conſtitutes nearly the whole of the expence of this manufacture) is at leaſt cent. per cent. againſt us.

Moſt of theſe circumſtances will equally affect Ireland.

Account

Account of earthen ware imported into Ireland, on an average of three years, ending 25th March, 1773.

Value.

12,085l. 3s. 0½d.

Account of earthen ware imported into Ireland, on an average of three years, ending 25th March, 1783.

Value

17,401l. 14s.

The valuations are very unſatisfactory.

None exported.

There is not time now to obſerve upon the remaining manufactures in much detail; but a knowledge of the importations and exportations of the moſt material of them at different periods, with a very few remarks, will furniſh

matter

matter of obſervation to thoſe who wiſh to examine the ſubject.

The manufacture of leather and candles have been mentioned under the article, Produce of Cattle.

STOCKINGS.

It is remarkable that the importation of a manufacture ſo much in the power of Ireland as ſtockings, ſhould have increaſed ſo very conſiderably in ten years. It is probable, however, that the manufacture within the country has alſo increaſed, though not in proportion to the increaſed conſumption; and the increaſed importation, when combined with other obvious circumſtances, afford a fair preſumption of the progreſſive improvement of the kingdom. Above 7500l. went out of the country for thread ſtockings; above 3000l. for cotton; and above 2000l. for worſted, in the year ending 25th March, 1783.

Impor-

Importation of ſtockings into Ireland.

	Cotton. Pairs.	Silk. Pairs.	Silk & Worſt. Pairs.	Thread. Pairs.	Woollen. Pairs.	Worſted. Pairs.
1771	12,222	547	42	18,031	1,875	9,290
1772	10,365	278	0	15,621	264	4,783
1773	8,633	296	24	16,888	118	5,422

No exportation of ſtockings from Ireland during the above period.

Importation of ſtockings into Ireland.

	Cotton. Pairs.	Silk. Pairs.	Silk and Thread. Pairs.
1781	17,338	431	24
1782	20,490	360	0
1783	23,744	1,042	192

	Silk & Worſted. Pairs	Thread. Pairs.	Woollen Pairs.	Worſted. Pairs.
1781	228	29,655	331	5,111
1782	348	39,717	1,617	9,617
1783	580	60,570	1,318	8,944

Exportation of ſtockings from Ireland.

	Thread.		Woollen.		Worſted.	
	Doz.	Pairs.	Doz.	Pairs.	Doz.	Pairs.
1781	432	4	297	11	1,143	1
1782	14	0	139	0	138	3
1783	79	3	259	0	393	0

HATS.

As the exportation of hats from Ireland exceeds the importation, it is clear that the manufacture of that article muſt be very conſiderable there. In the year ending 25th March, 1784, the export to America alone increaſed to 11,867. Neither the Americans nor the French can make good hats for want of rabbits' wool in ſufficient quantities. It is ſurpriſing at how low a price, and in what quantities, Newcaſtle under Line affords felt hats.

Account of hats imported into Ireland, on an average of three years, ending 25th March, 1773.

No. 865.

Account of hats imported into Ireland, on an average of three years, ending 25th March, 1783.

No. 2012.

Account of hats exported from Ireland.

In the year	1781	No. 1404
	1782	450
	1783	3211

UPHOLSTERY.

This manufacture, which includes carpeting and blankets, is much improved and extended in Ireland; yet the annexed account ſhews an increaſed importation in ten years; but the conſumption was ſtill more increaſed. If a later average, however, is taken than that ending 1773, there is ſome decreaſe in the importation: in a few years the amount probably will be trifling; at preſent it is not conſiderable.

Importation into Ireland of upholſtery ware for the following period:

1771	1772	1773
Value.	Value.	Value.
6198l. 19s. 2d.	4318l. 9s. 11½d.	5739l. 11s. 9d.

No exportation of upholſtery ware from Ireland during the above-mentioned period.

Importation into Ireland of upholſtery ware for the following periods :

1781	1782	1783
Value.	Value.	Value.
4805l. 13s. 1d.	8977l. 17s. 11¾d.	8289l. 2s. 10½d.

Export from Ireland of upholſtery ware for ditto :

1781	1782	1783
Value.	Value.	Value.
113l. 6s. 8d.	629l. 18s. 3d.	636l. 18s. 0d.

POT ASHES.

Notwithſtanding the ſpirited encouragement which is given for the making this eſſential article for the linen manufacture within the kingdom, the importation has increaſed one third in ten years, and it muſt continue to be very great ; but it proves the increaſe of the linen manufacture. In the year ending 25th March, 1783, the importation from all parts amounted to

130,893 cwt. 1 q. 21 lb.

Value, at 25 per cwt., 163,616l. 15s. 11d.

A great proportion, as will appear under the head of trade with Spain, came from that country.

Account of pot aſhes imported into Ireland, on an average of three years, ending 25th March, 1773.

Cwt.	q.	lb.
54,297	3	16⅓

Account of pot aſhes imported into Ireland, on an average of three years, ending 25th March, 1783.

Cwt.	q.	lb.
81,028	1	12

BOOKS, PAPER, &c.

Whenever any arrangement is made between Great Britain and Ireland, it is hoped that ſome attention will be paid to literary property, and that copy right will be ſecured on a proper footing: the correction of an abuſe injurious to men of genius and ſcience ſurely deſerves attention. Many books have been very well printed in Ireland; ſtill a con-

conſiderable quantity muſt be imported, and more than would be ſuppoſed from the following account — Indeed the mode of rating unbound books, viz. at 10l. per cwt. is not very ſatisfactory. A great number of books are carried into Ireland without being entered.

It appears that in ten years there was no great variation in the importation of writing paper into Ireland, but the quantity of printing paper was reduced above half. Several other ſorts of paper are imported into Ireland, but not in quantities worth mentioning.

The late duties on paper in Britain have much enhanced the price of books, and debaſed the paper on which they are printed. They are taxes on trade and learning. Ireland will underſel Britain in the article of paper.

An account of the books and paper imported into Ireland, on an average of three years, ending 25th March, 1773.

	Bound. Value.			Unbound.		
	£.	s.	d.	Cwt.	qr.	lb.
Books	183	10	1	201	0	2

Preſſing

	Preſſing. Leaves.	Printing. Reams.	Writing. Reams.
Paper	57,168	11,295	5,077

Ditto of ditto, exported from Ireland during three years, ending 25th of March, 1773:

	Books. Cwt. qrs. lb.	Paper. Reams.
1771	11 2 0	98
1772	7 1 0	
1773	31 3 21	

An account of books and paper imported into Ireland, on an average of three years, ending 25th March 1783.

	Bound. £. s. d.	Unbound. Cwt. qr. lb.
Books	207 14 8¼	271 1 10

	Preſſing. Leaves.	Printing. Reams.	Writing. Reams.
Paper	85,257	4,772	5,749

An account of books and paper exported from Ireland, during three years, ending 25th March, 1783.

		Bound. £. s. d.	Unbound. Cwt. q. lb.	Paper. Writ. Reams.	Paper. Brown. Reams.
1781	Books	1 19 6	15 3 14	22	—
1782	-	- -	55 0 14	200	—
1783	-	- -	174 3 14	302	98

BEER.

BEER.

Notwithſtanding the great increaſe of tillage in Ireland, and the improvements in huſbandry, it is extraordinary that her importation of beer ſhould increaſe ſo conſiderably, and her exportation decreaſe. There muſt be ſome bad management; and until ſuch matters are corrected, Ireland ſhould not ſuffer her attention to be taken off to competitions of much difficulty and uncertainty. In the year ending 25th March, 1783, the quantity of beer imported from England was 51,405 barrels, and 190 barrels from Scotland.

Account of beer imported and exported from Ireland, on an average of three years, ending 25th March, 1773.

Import. Barrels.	Export. Barrels.
45,585½	3,550

Account of beer imported into and exported from Ireland, on an average of three years, ending 25th March, 1783.

Import. Barrels.	Export. Barrels.
54,546⅔	959

AGRI-

AGRICULTURE.

Agriculture, though laſt mentioned, certainly ſhould be the firſt in eſtimation, as it is in real conſequence. Yet it too often happens in the moſt civilized countries of Europe, that this moſt eſſential purſuit of man is neglected; and the capital of the community being diverted to uncertain ſpeculations, the country remains half tilled and half ſtocked. Manufactures ſhould be conſidered as ſecondary to agriculture: and commerce, as reſulting from both.

The agriculture of Ireland, although there may be many exceptions to the general rule, is very bad. The ſoil, however, does its part or rather does almoſt the whole. It muſt, nevertheleſs be acknowledged, that a conſiderable improvement in huſbandry has taken place, at leaſt tillage has increaſed; and within ten years Ireland has become an exporter of corn, and is likely to continue: but previous to 1776 ſhe uſed to import corn, and ſometimes very largely. It is the want

of

of capital in the Iriſh farmers, as much as the want of a good ſyſtem of huſbandry, that prevents a better cultivation of the earth, and the poverty of the tenantry of Ireland is more hurtful than the ſuppoſed high rents *. To ſtock a well-ſized farm, and to eſtabliſh and purſue a good courſe of management, and of crops, requires ſuch a capital as is not to be often found among them. Conſequently the farms are too large for their weak purſe, and a ſmall farm becomes a neceſſary evil in Ireland: but it is by no means intended to recommend the latter. The great farmer, of whom ſo many ignorantly complain in England, preſerves us from ſcarcity or extravagant prices in ſummer; his opulence anſwers the purpoſe of public granaries. A good ſyſtem of agriculture and intelligence, and riches among farmers, are the beſt granaries on which a country can depend, and neither produce expence nor abuſe †. Such

* The rent of England appears much higher than it is, to an Engliſhman who does not know that five Iriſh acres are equal to eight Engliſh, and that no taxes whatever fall on the land, except a contribution to the highways of the diſtrict.

† The mills, which have been eſtabliſhed within a

Such farmers are enabled to preſerve part of their crop, and to wait the market of the enſuing ſummer. The little farmer, of very ſmall capital, at the ſame time that he is the wretched ſport of every irregularity of ſeaſons, or of every trifling accident, is obliged to go to market with all his corn and all his produce, at the time the price is loweſt, and before the winter is finiſhed. A more pitiable creature does not live, even when compared with the loweſt labourer. He exiſts under an unremitting ſucceſſion of ſtruggles and anxieties, uſeleſs to himſelf and hurtful to the public. For the ſoil in his hands is not ſufficiently cultivated or half ſtocked, nor half the produce derived from it, that might, be in the occupation of a more opulent man. The expence of cattle, huſbandry utenſils, of attendance, &c. are proportionably greater than on one of a moderate ſize. The profit is conſumed by the team or neceſſary cattle, on a ſmall farm, or the land is not tilled, at leaſt in due time.

few years, in Ireland, are *her* beſt granaries. They are on a great ſcale, and are in the hands of very conſiderable gentlemen. They anſwer as a certain market to the farmer.

It is therefore of eſſential conſequence to divide lands properly, and to proportion the farm, (ſtill taking care not to admit too ſmall diviſions) to the ability of the tenant, rather than to his eagerneſs for poſſeſſing much land; and although the tenants of an eſtate may not be according to the wiſhes of the landlord, it is neither humane nor prudent to expel them all, to introduce plauſible adventurers, who, in the end, will generally give as little ſatisfaction as the native. The latter will cling to the ſoil, and although he may not have the means, or know the beſt method of deriving the greateſt profit from the land, he will almoſt ſtarve himſelf, to pay the rent. An intelligent landlord will find ſome among the tenants, fit to be brought forward; and notwithſtanding the proſpect may not be very promiſing, yet, by affording them due protection, with a little aſſiſtance, it is, perhaps, the beſt method that can be purſued.

The Dublin ſociety, which, in every ſenſe of the word, is the firſt inſtitution of its kind in Europe, has not only been very ſerviceable as a Board of trade, manufac-

ture, and uſeful arts, but has been particularly aſſiſtant to the agriculture of the country. Parliament ſupports the ſociety with liberal grants, and the public has reaſon to be ſatisfied with the attention of the members; yet many years will paſs before a good ſyſtem of huſbandry can be generally eſtabliſhed in Ireland: that country is very much behind England in that reſpect, although a good mode of tillage is very far from general in the latter. It is not neceſſary to enter into any detail as to the agriculture of Ireland, eſpecially as Mr. Young has lately given ſo ſatisfactory an account of it. In conſequence of the labours of that gentleman, the rural œconomy of England and Ireland is well known to the inhabitants of theſe kingdoms; it is an advantage which, perhaps, no country before ſo fully enjoyed. Some may think their neighbourhood not deſcribed to their mind, and that time enough has not been beſtowed on each ſpot; and the attention of others will be confined to the buſineſs of remarking, that a buſhel too much, or an acre too little, are mentioned. But while ſuch obſervers thus amuſe themſelves, the politician will gain the information

tion he wants; he will meet many good obſervations; and after an attentive examination of the facts which are ſtated, he will find himſelf poſſeſſed of a very competent knowledge of the country.

The import and export of corn, meal, and flour, at different periods, now remain to be compared; and this opportunity may be taken of obſerving, that the export, ſince the account was laſt made up, has been very great indeed. The demand from Scotland has been immenſe; and alſo for cattle: a very conſiderable number of the latter came to the Northern parts of England; but the quantity that went to Scotland is ſaid greatly to have exceeded former exportations. The crop of corn in Ireland the laſt year was ſo good, as to be fully equal to the demand.

An account of corn and meal imported into Ireland, on an average of three years, ending 25th March, 1773.

Barley and Malt.		Beans and Peaſe.		Oats.		Wheat.	
Quar.	Buſh.	Quar.	Buſh.	Quar.	Buſh.	Quar.	Buſh.
28,320	4½	1,204	0	742	4	22,824	4

Flour.

Flour.			Oatmeal.	Wheat meal.
Cwt.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Barrels.	Barrels.
61,127	1	21	9,906⅔	2,457⅓

An account of corn and meal exported from Ireland, on an average of three years, ending 25th March, 1773.

Barley and Malt.		Beans and Peaſe.		Oats.		Wheat		Rye.
Qr.	Buſh.	Qr.	Buſh.	Qr.	Buſh.	Qr.	Buſh.	Qr.
3,222	4⅔	194	1½	11,478	2	1,011⅓	0	17

Flour.			Oatmeal.	Groats.
Cwt.	Quar.	Lbs.	Barrels.	Barrels.
151	3	9⅓	15,787⅓	14⅔

An account of corn and meal imported into Ireland, on an average of three years, ending 25th March, 1783.

Barley and Malt.		Beans and Peaſe.		Oats.		Wheat.	
Quarters	Buſh.	Quar.	Buſh.	Quar.	Buſh.	Quar.	Buſh.
38,550	4	411	2⅔	490	2½	649	2

Flour.			Oatmeal.
Cwt.	Quar.	Lbs.	Barrels.
22,208	0	25⅔	3,466⅙

An account of corn and meal exported from Ireland, on an average of three years, ending 25th March, 1783.

Barley and Malt.		Beans and Peaſe.		Oats.		Wheat	
Qrs.	Buſh.	Qrs.	Buſh.	Qrs.	Buſh.	Qrs.	Buſh.
9,848	2½	1645	3¼	53,285	6½	30,123	6½

Flour.			Groats.	Oatmeal.	Wheat Meal.
Cwt.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.
85,284	3	11⅔	7⅔	11,577¾	66⅔

The foregoing particulars are ſufficient to enable us to decide, that not only the manufactures and produce in general, but that each particular article of conſequence, is in an improving and proſperous ſtate; yet it muſt occur to the intelligent reader, how extremely difficult it is to make an arrangement relative to them between the two countries, equal, reciprocal, and ſatisfactory.

The

No change in the commercial ſyſtem was either neceſſary or expedient: nor can alterations of the extent propoſed take place but to the diſadvantage of Great Britain and of the Britiſh empire. — But if this were the proper moment to agitate matters of ſuch magnitude, ſurely it is incumbent on the legiſlatures of the two kingdoms to include other queſtions in their diſcuſſion. — If all the reſerved advantages of Great Britain are now to be given up; if the two countries can be perſuaded that there is either juſtice or policy in ſuch conceſſions; if no means of future favour or negociation are to be left; there are ſome unſettled points of eſſential conſequence, which ſhould not now be neglected; nor ſhould it be poſtponed to the hour of difficulty and diſtreſs to arrange and aſcertain the relative exertions and political connection of Ireland in time of war.

GENE-

GENERAL TRADE.

We now come to inquire into the external commerce of Ireland. The examination of what it has been, will give a very imperfect idea of the extenſion it is capable of. It ſeems at preſent likely to outſtrip her internal trade; and care ſhould be taken that the latter, which is of the greateſt conſequence, be not neglected.

The general trade of Ireland has increaſed greatly, and it will increaſe much more: ſhe has had a favourable balance* on the whole of her commerce, during this century, according to her own Cuſtom-houſe accounts, on averages of five or ten years, and even on the years ſeparately, except the following, when the balance againſt her was,

	£.	s.	d.
In the year 1701 - -	21,902	6	3
1706 - -	71,742	18	4
1709 - -	3,719	1	7
1724 - -	12,187	1	0

* Even before the year 1750, it amounted ſome years to upwards of 400,000l. and in 1747, to 798,230l.

But in the year of the peace, viz. the year ending 25th March, 1783, the imports and exports both roſe high, the imports exceeded thoſe of former years.

	£.
Imports - -	3,005,002
Exports - -	2,907,489
Balance againſt Ireland -	97,062

Yet on an average of five years, the balance was in her favour. The extraordinary import in that year, partly happened from the effect of peace, and partly from the neceſſity of compleating ſtock to ſupply the deficiency of imports in preceding years, particularly in 1779 and 1780, when they were very conſiderably lower than uſual. The table, No. III. ſhews the trade of Ireland with all parts by decennial averages during ſixty years.

The Eſſay on the Trade of Ireland, publiſhed in 1729, by Mr. Dobbs, obſerves, that it is probable the exports of Ireland, during the period from the Reſtoration to the

the Revolution, did not exceed 600,000l. In the year 1681,

	£.
The exports were - - -	582,814
Imports - -	433,040
Balance in favour of Ireland	149,774

It is well known how much Ireland ſuffered by the war of the Revolution; and it is not extraordinary, that in 1695, three years only after peace was reſtored, that there ſhould be a balance againſt Ireland of 95,932l.

	£.
Her exports that year were -	295,592
Imports - -	391,524

Her ſtock of cattle and ſheep had been neglected and deſtroyed during the war, and her trade had been principally in the produce of them; but in three years afterwards, viz. 1698,

	£.
Her exports roſe to -	996,305
Imports - -	576,863
Balance in favour of Ireland	419,442

In the following year, 1699, came on the violent reſtriction of her woollen trade; and in 1700,

	£.
Her exports were - -	814,745
Imports - -	792,473
Balance in favour of Ireland only - -	22,272

But the next year, viz. 1701, was one of the very few years in which the balance of trade was againſt Ireland;

	£.
Exports - -	670,412
Imports - -	692,314
Balance againſt Ireland -	22,902

It is difficult at this diſtance of time to diſcover whence aroſe this great alteration in her trade, unleſs it can be in part imputed to the war which began at that time *. It was partly cauſed by the reſtrictions on her woollens;

* The very ſudden and rapid increaſe in 1697 and 98 may be, in great meaſure, aſcribed to the peace of Ryſwick, which certainly had enlivened commerce.

but

but that could not produce near the effect we have obſerved; for the greateſt export of woollens from Ireland, viz. in 1687, did not exceed in value 70,521 l. and in the year previous to the prohibition. viz. 1698, it was only 23,614 l †. and at the ſame time it ſhould be remarked, that the whole value of old and new drapery imported from England in 1698, was only 9,612 l. 13s. 9d. and in the year 1701 it had only riſen to 16,163 l. 8s. 9d. But this will be more particularly detailed under the article, Woollen Manufacture.

It appears from Tables, No. III. and IV. how greatly the trade has increaſed during this century, and in a regular progreſſion, the beſt proof of a well-eſtabliſhed commerce, except the period from 1720 to 1730, during which there is a decreaſe from that of the preceding ten years, to the amount, on the average, of about 110,000l. a year. It has, in 80 years, increaſed more in proportion than the trade of England, and, perhaps, if it could be aſcer-

† This calculation is taken from Smith's Memoirs on wool. It ſeems very low; however if it were doubled, it would go but a little way in accounting for the alteration.

tained,

tained, we ſhould find that the external trade of Ireland is, in proportion to her capital, greater than that of England; but Ireland is far behind as to internal trade, and until there is an improvement in that reſpect, ſhe cannot expect to ſee her people fully employed, or in poſſeſſion of any general affluence.

Her progreſs in the preſent æra is great and rapid; in general her imports of manufactured goods decreaſe, and her exports of manufactures increaſe. Her trade to all parts muſt advance very much—Her ſpirits are now alive to improvements, and if they take a right turn, the country will be highly benefited. It is probable ſhe will ſend more to every country than ſhe has done, particularly to America and the Weſt Indies. She will ſupply herſelf with foreign and colonial commodities to a greater extent than ſhe does now; but unleſs Britain relinquiſhes that principle of the navigation laws which makes her the mart for thoſe articles, Ireland will not become the entrepot of them. However intereſting, it is unneceſſary to repeat the arguments on that head, or to point out the various bad conſequences that would reſult from it; nor, in truth,

truth, is the meaſure in queſtion neceſſary to the proſperity of Ireland. The Weſt Indies and North America take of every thing that Ireland produces or manufactures. The markets of the Plantations and New States are more likely to find a demand for her manufactures, than the well-ſupplied markets of Britain.

Ireland, very properly, conſiders the laſt year's ſyſtem of taxing manufactures in Great Britain, as bounties in favour of her manufactures; and ſo do the oppreſſed manufacturers of Mancheſter, Glaſgow, Paiſley, &c. many of whom, and in very reſpectable ſituations, have, ſince June laſt, made offers to go and eſtabliſh themſelves and their manufactures in Ireland. The Miniſters ſhould learn, that although duties or taxes are drawn back on exportation, they are a very great weight on trade—and among other inſtances, by the much greater capital which is neceſſarily employed, the extenſion of the manufacture is prevented. The manufacturer cannot ſpeculate: he will not make goods till ordered. Men of ſmall capitals cannot undertake buſineſs, and an oppreſſive advan-

advantage is given to great capitals. Ireland has not theſe diſadvantages—on the contrary, her manufacturers poſſeſs every facility and encouragement that were ever known in any country. There is one exception, however, as to external trade, a remain of the old mode of treating cuſtoms, chiefly, as a matter of revenue. She ſtill lays five per cent. on *all* exports, and ten per cent. on *all* imports, with very few exceptions as to the latter.

The general import trade of Ireland is carried on at Waterford, Dublin, Belfaſt, Derry, and Limerick, through which places the kingdom is principally ſupplied, and Cork, in compariſon to her conſiderable ſtate of commerce in other reſpects, has not her proportion of the import trade. The country ſhe has to ſupply is not conſiderable in point of population. This is no ſmall diſadvantage to that city; but her port and ſituation will always make her a firſt-rate place for trade. It is, however, to be lamented that her trade is not more ſteady and equal. The difference of demand for proviſions in peace and war, does not ſufficiently account for it, as has appeared under the

the article, proviſion trade. The ſudden Peace undoubtedly cauſed a very conſiderable check, from the great ſtock of proviſions prepared and preparing, which were thrown back upon the dealers, factors, and importers. The great quantity of goverment ſtores on hand were to be ſold, and the garriſons and iſlands were filled with proviſions; but the late languid ſtate of trade at Cork is perhaps much more to be imputed to the check to credit, which, and the great demand for money, poſſibly now affect her more than the pacification. There are, however, ſatisfactory reaſons to believe that her exertions are again beginning to have full ſcope and ſucceſs.

Although the balance of trade is in favour of Ireland with moſt countries, it is conſtantly againſt her with Norway, Denmark, Sweden, and the Eaſt Country. It is often ſo in the trade with France, the import of claret exceeding the export of beef and pork to that country; and ſometimes the balance is againſt her with Holland and Flanders. A ſeparate view will be given of the trade to each country; and on every account it will be proper to be-

gin with the trade to Great Britain, with which country the commerce of Ireland is very great indeed; ſo much ſo, that when her trade with all other countries is compared to it, it ſeems a mere trifle.

TABLE

TABLE. No. III.

Decennial Averages of Exports and Imports of Ireland, to and from all Parts, from 1700, to 1760 inclusive.

Average of ten years.	Exports. £.	s.	d.	Imports. £.	s.	d.
From 1700, to 1710.	553023	16	0	513657	17	2½
Ditto from 1710, to 1720.	1126670	6	11¾	852905	7	11½
Ditto from 1720, to 1730.	1019809	3	2¾	856936	6	8
Ditto from 1730, to 1740.	1190253	3	4½	885044	8	2
Ditto from 1740, to 1750.	1485110	18	3	1123373	1	8
Ditto from 1750, to 1760.	2002354	5	10¼	1594164	7	1½

N. B. This is the Iriſh cuſtom-houſe account.

TRADE WITH ENGLAND.

Perhaps a more ſtriking inſtance of the unſatisfactorineſs of cuſtom-houſe accounts does not occur than in their ſtate of the trade between England and Ireland. It is generally ſuppoſed that the balance has been in favour of England from 4or 500,000l. to 1,000,000l. yearly, and that it had been always greatly in her favour; but the contrary has been the caſe, two or three years excepted. The Iriſh cuſtom-houſe accounts are in this matter much nearer to the truth than the Engliſh. The articles are rated below the value, but not very conſiderably: the difference and the deception ariſe from the manner of valuing Iriſh linens in the ports of England. In the latter they are averaged and valued at 8d. per yard. In Ireland they are valued from 15d. to 17d. per yard, which, conſidering the proportion of fine linens ſent from that country, is below the real value. This at once explains the difference of the Engliſh and Iriſh ſtate of the balance of trade between the two countries, and it is obvious

how

how great the difference muſt be when we conſider that the linens exported from Ireland generally are more than half of the whole export from that kingdom, and that they are rated in England at leſs than one half of their value.

Thus, for example, taking the year 1777: 21,181,065 yards imported into England from Ireland, are valued in the Engliſh cuſtom-houſe accounts at 706,035l. 10s.*, and in the ſame year the Iriſh cuſtom-houſe accounts value the linen exported to England at 1,387,584l. 5s. 5d.*

Accord-

* All accounts laid before Parliament by the Inſpector General, are ſaid to be made up, viz. goods exported according to their current price at home, imported according to their current price abroad—freight, therefore, is not included in theſe valuations — The gains upon freight are diſtinct and additional both upon import and export.

* No cuſtom being paid on export of linen from Ireland, there is not a minute attention to the exact quantity entered for exportation; and it is ſaid more is entered than exported; on the other hand, to ſave a trifling duty or murage at Cheſter of 1d. or 2d. per piece, a ſmaller quantity is entered for the fair than really goes — but the

According to the cuſtom-houſe accounts given by Sir Francis Brewer in his Eſſays on trade, the average exports of Ireland to England for ſix years, ending 1681, were,

	£.
Exports - - - -	231,554
Imports from England - -	346,800
Balance in favour of England -	115,246
Of the imports from foreign parts about - - - -	86,000
In 1681, Ireland exported of yarn and manufacture to the amount of	69,000
Of which linen yarn - -	12,000
Woollen ditto - - -	3,000

which two laſt articles were manufactured to advantage in England.

About 50,000l. of the 69,000 were in frizes, much of which went to England, and was improved by new dreſſing and nap-

the quantity entered at the Cuſtom-houſe of England is ſaid to be exact; therefore by doubling the value, that is, from 8d. to 16d. per yard, perhaps we arrive neareſt the truth, which cannot be minutely aſcertained, becauſe the Cuſtom-houſe accounts of Great Britain and Ireland, cannot be exactly compared: the Britiſh are made up to Chriſtmas, the Iriſh to Lady Day.

ping;

ping; beſides, there was not above 4000l. in value, of Iriſh manufacture exported.

In 1695, the manufactures of Ireland exported were in value 30,463l. of which woollen and linen yarn amounted to 20,075l. which exceeds the quantity of thoſe articles exported before the preceding war, as appears in the laſt article, above 5000l.

	£.	s.	d.
In 1696, imports from England - - -	233,543	18	4
Imports from foreign parts	101,419	16	8
In 1697, imports from England - - -	290,892	16	7
Imports from foreign parts	132,290	0	0

The exports this year to England of manufactures and woollen and linen yarn, principally the two laſt, amounted to 83,807l. and were conſequently advantageous to England, as ſhe improved them.

	£.	s.	d.
In 1698, imports from England - -	385,797	1	5½
Imports from foreign parts	191,066	0	0

This year the amount of manufactures ſent to England of the ſame ſort as before, roſe to 155,595l.

The table No. IV. gives the trade of Ireland with Great Britain for the laſt thirty-four years; from which it appears, that the balance in favour of Ireland has varied from 4 to 800,000l.; and there has been this balance againſt Great Britain, notwithſtanding the trade with that part of it called Scotland was conſiderably againſt Ireland.

The following ſhews the great difference of value between the imports into Great Britain and Ireland of the product and manufactures of each country:

Value of imports into Ireland of the growth and manufacture of Great Britain, average of three years ending 25th March, 1782, 1,218,704l. 18s. 5¼d.

Value of exports of the growth and manufacture of Ireland to Great Britain, average for ſame years, 2,420,425l. 6s. 7¾d.

The

The table No. I. has ſhewn how great a proportion of the whole trade to Great Britain conſiſted in linens and linen and woollen yarn for 10 years ending 25th March, 1783, diſtinguiſhing each article and year.

The table No. V. gives the quantities and value of Aſiatic goods exported from Great Britain into Ireland for three years, ending 25th March, 1783, diſtinguiſhing each ſort.

	£.
The value of the total imports from Great Britain into Ireland in 1781 - -	2,432,417
Whereof the growth, product, or manufacture of Britain -	1,486,317
Remains of foreign - - -	946,100
Whereof African, American, and Aſiatic, about - -	800,000
Remains of other countries - -	146,100

The tables No. VI. and VII. give the detail of the whole trade between England and Ireland, viz. the exports and imports for the year ending 25th March, 1783, diſtinguiſh-

ing each article, its quantity and value. They are principally intended to ſhew the articles which form the commerce of the two countries, and the mode of valuing them in the cuſtom houſes of Ireland.

The two laſt are the Iriſh cuſtom-houſe accounts, and ſeem more exact and correct than ſuch accounts uſually are.

The following is the Engliſh cuſtom-houſe account of the trade between England and Ireland for the year 1783. It has already been remarked, how extremely defective the Engliſh accounts are in the valuation of imports from Ireland, and what a falſe balance conſequently is given.

An account of the value of the goods and manufactures exported from England to Ireland, from 5th January, 1783, to 5th January, 1784; alſo an account of the value of the goods imported from Ireland into England in the above period.

Exported

Exported to Ireland.
Britiſh manufactures and produce.

	£.	s.	d.
London - -	84,698	4	7
Out-ports - -	914,318	9	9
	999,016	14	4
Foreign goods from London	598,722	10	10
London ditto, Out-ports	549,624	12	4
Total	2,147,363	17	6

Imported from Ireland.
Iriſh manufactures and produce.

	£.	s.	d.
London, - -	687,489	6	2
Out-ports - -	811,739	7	7
	1,499,228	13	9

No. IV.

An account of the value of all goods and merchandize imported from, and exported to, Great Britain, from Ireland, for the following years, ending 25th March.

	Export.			Import.		
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
1750	1,069,364	1	2 5/8	920,340	17	0 3/4
1751	1,229,718	5	5	1,025,677	3	1 1/2
1752	1,228,992	11	5 3/8	1,106,577	17	10 1/2
1753	1,142,640	2	11 1/8	978,144	3	7 3/8
1754	1,206,791	16	2 3/8	1,122,651	14	2 3/8
1755	1,312,176	2	6 3/4	1,039,911	10	4 3/8
1756	1,146,703	19	11	912,560	16	4 1/4
1757	1,480,174	5	0	958,194	8	5 1/2
1758	1,462,695	15	3 3/8	1,093,001	1	5 1/4
1759	1,466,437	0	2 1/4	996,001	15	11 3/8
1760	1,450,757	8	6 7/8	1,094,752	12	11 1/2
1761	1 494,499	8	2 3/4	1,096,989	9	2
1762	1,649,295	4	5 1/4	1,338,325	8	9 1/4
1763	1,562,400	9	11	1,284,891	2	8 7/8
1764	1,682,196	2	3	1,567,683	1	1 3/8
1765	1,693,197	5	7	1,439,969	4	8 3/4
1769	2,266,151	17	4 3/4	1,776,996	1	3 3/4
1770	2,408,838	12	4 3/4	1,878,599	6	11
1771	2,514,039	13	4	1,806,732	15	6
1772	2,405,507	8	1 3/4	1,586,623	17	3 1/2
1773	2,178,664	1	4 1/4	1,679,212	5	3 1/4
1774	2,117,695	11	8 1/2	1,711,174	13	7 1/4
1775	2,379,858	9	8 1/4	1,739,543	18	4 1/2
1776	2,551,211	11	3 3/4	1,875,525	12	8 1/4
1777	2,552,296	18	4 3/4	2,233,192	7	9 1/2
1778	2,718,145	18	1 3/4	2,076,460	16	2 1/2
1779	2,256,659	0	5	1,644,770	17	5 3/4
1880	2,381,234	18	3 1/4	1,576,635	13	5 3/4
1781	2,180,215	7	11 3/4	2,432,417	13	10
1782	2,699,825	13	8 1/2	2,277,946	10	8 1/4
1783	1,989,290	6	9	2,320,455	18	7 1/4

N. B. This Table is formed from the Iriſh cuſtom-houſe accounts.

No. V

An Account of Goods and Merchandize, being the Growth, Produ
from thence exported to the Kingdom of Ireland, for three Years,
inclusive, each Year distinguished with the particular Value of each C
imported into Ireland during the said three Years.

Denominations.		Ye		
		1781.		
		Quantity.	Value.	
			£. s.	d.
Drugs — — — —	Value.	—	7677 1	9½
Groceries { Cinnamon - —	Lbs.	7323	2929 4	0
Cloves — —	Lbs.	1943	971 10	0
Mace — —	Lbs.	1944	1620 0	0
Nutmegs - —	Lbs.	7176	3588 0	0
Pepper — —	Lbs.	53727	3581 16	0
Piamento — —	Lbs.	555	27 15	0
Rice — —	C. q. lb.	766 0 7	609 9	1½
India Silks and Stuffs — —	Value.	—	3 15	0
Callico { Stained — —	Yards.	1585	396 5	0
White — —	Yards.	402	80 8	0
Muslin —— —— —	Yards.	74220½	12370 1	8
Saltpetre — — —	C. q. lb.	911 3 0	2279 7	6
China — Raw Silks — —	Lbs. ozs.	68429 0	68429 0	0
Tea - { Bohea —— —	Lbs.	1224506	122450 12	0
Green — —	Lbs.	517127	155138 2	0

N. B. China Ware is omitted in this Account, being confounded with Earthen Ware from England.

[To face page 284.]

No. V.

Product, or Manufacture of Asia, imported into Great Britain, and Years, from 25th of March, 1780, inclusive, to 25th of March, 1783, each Commodity in each Year; and total Value of the whole Quantity

	Years ending the 25th of March.											
		1782.				1783.				Total Value of Three Years.		
		Quantity.	Value.			Quantity.	Value.					
	d.		£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
	9½	—	10121	7	6½	—	9121	2	4	26919	11	8
4	0	222¾	89	2	0	634	252	8	0	3270	14	0
0	0	562	281	0	0	561	280	10	0	1533	0	0
0	0	272¼	226	17	6	788	656	13	4	2503	10	10
0	0	3539	1769	10	0	5388	2694	0	0	8051	10	0
6	0	43401¾	2893	9	0	62719	4181	5	4	10656	10	4
5	0	5392	269	12	0	2082	104	2	0	401	9	0
9	1½	820 1 14	738	6	9	9 3 14	8	17	9	1436	13	7½
5	0	—	—			—	—			3	15	0
5	0	1836	459	0	0	1203	300	15	0	1156	0	0
8	0	860	172	0	0	480	96	0	0	348	8	0
1	8	54041	9006	16	8	37272	6522	12	0	27899	10	4
7	6	889 1 14	2248	8	9	1665 1 7	4163	5	7½	8691	1	10½
0	0	46694 4	46694	3	4	32656 0	32656	0	0	147779	3	4
2	0	887767	88776	14	0	1478080	147808	0	0	359035	6	0
2	0	433248	129974	8	0	570838	171251	8	0	456363	18	0
							£.			1056050	2	0½

ded

No. VI.

EXPORTS from IRELAND to that Part of Great Britain called ENGLAND, for the Year ending March 25, 1783; diſtinguiſhing each Article, its Quantity and Value

Denominations.		Quantities.	Medium of the current Market Price.	Total Value.
			£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Bacon { Hams	C. Q. No.	298 0 7	at 1 10 – per cwt.	447 1 10½
Bacon { Hams	No.	5518	– 15 – each	4138 10 –
Beer	Barrels	88⅔	– 10 – per barrel	44 6 8
Beef { Barrels	No.	6849⅙	1 10 – each	102736 15 –
Beef { Carcaſſes	No.	2	4 – – each	8 – –
Bottles of Glaſs	Dozens	8⅓	– 18 – per dozen	7 10 –
Boards, Barrels	C. Q. No.	45 – –	– 10 – per cwt.	22 10 –
Books, bound and unbound	C. Q. lb.	73 3 14	2 10 – do.	184 13 9
Bread	Do.	464 3 –	– 12 – do.	278 17 –
Bullocks and Cows	No.	160	5 – – each	800 – –
Barrels empty	No.	500	– 5 – do.	125 – –
Butter	C. Q. lb.	1088, 1 3 –	2 – – per cwt.	217743 10 –
Candles	Do.	71 2 –	1 16 8 do.	131 1 8
Cheeſe	Do.	85 – 21	1 – – do.	85 3 9
Coaches and Coachmakers' Work	Value	40 – –		40 – –
Copper Ore	Tons	37¾	3 10 – per ton	132 2 6
Corn { Barley	Qrs. Buſh.	14758	1 12 – per quarter	23612 16 –
Corn { Beans	Do.	353	1 – – do.	353 – –
Corn { Oats	Do.	15742	– 9 9 do.	7674 4 6
Corn { Peaſe	Do.	8	1 – – do.	8 – –
Corn { Wheat	Do.	2954	2 4 0 do.	6498 16 –

Denominations.		Quantities.	Medium of the current Market Price.	Total Value.
			£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Feathers	C. q. lb.	45 1	at 2 – – per cwt.	90 10 –
Fiſh { Herrings	Barrels	823½	– 15 – per barrel	617 10 –
Fiſh { Ling	C. q. No.	2 2 2	3 – – per cwt.	7 11 2½
Fiſh { Salmon	Tons. Trs.	53¼	12 – – per ton	639 – –
Flax Seed, Iriſh	Hhds.	42	1 10 – per hhd.	63 – –
Glue	C. q. lb.	746 1 14	1 13 4 per cwt.	1243 19 2
Haberdaſhery Ware	Value	1 14 11		1 14 11
Hair { Goats	C. q. lb.	1 7		
Hair { Human	Pounds	58	3 – – per lb.	174 – –
Hogs	No.	642	1 – – each	642 – –
Hog's lard	C. q. lb.	3575	1 10 – per cwt.	5362 10 –
Horſes	No.	37	6 – – each	222 – –
Horns { Ox and Cows	C. q. No.	667 18	– 16 8 per cwt.	555 18 2
Horns { Tips	Do.	22	– 6 8 do.	7 6 8
Hides { Tanned	No.	335	1 13 4 each	558 6 8
Hides { Untanned	No.	50204	1 6 8 each	66938 13 4
Iron	Tons	3¼6	16 15 – per ton	51 1 9
Ironmongers' Ware	Value	59 – –		59 – –
Kelp	Tons	1228	1 10 – do.	1842 – –
Lead Ore	Do.	½	2 6 8 do.	– 15 7
Linen Cloth	Yards	14222707	– 1 4 per yard	948180 9 4
Meal { Flour	C. q. lb.	6146 2 –	– 15 – per cwt.	4609 17 6
Meal { Oats	Barrels	9	– 10 6 per barrel	4 14 6
Ox { Bones	Thouſands	72	– 6 8 per thouſand	24 – –
Ox { Guts	Barrels	136	– 16 8 per barrel	113 6 8
Pork	Do.	408 55½	1 10 – do.	61283 14 –

Denominations.		Quantities.	Medium of the current Market Price.	Total Value.
			at £. s. d.	£. s. d.
Rabbits' Furs	Lbs.	5539	– 5 – per lb.	1384 15 –
Rape Seed	Qrs. Bush.	3283	1 12 6 per quarter	5334 17 6
Salt	Bushels	80	– 1 3 per bushel	5 – –
Silk Manufacture	Lbs. oz.	229	5 – – per lb.	1145 – –
Skins — Calf	Doz. No.	17880 10	1 2 6 per dozen	20115 18 9
Skins — Goat	C. q. No.	37 1 20	6 – – per cwt.	224 14 0
Skins — Kid	Do.	21 2	3 2 6 do.	67 3 9
Skins — Lamb	Do.	2216 –	2 5 – do.	4986 – –
Skins — Rabbit	Do.	77 2	1 5 6 do.	98 16 3
Sope	C. q. lb.	133 3	1 13 4 do.	223 – –
Tallow	Do.	30040 2	2 – – do.	62081 – –
Tongues	Dozens	963	– 12 – per dozen	577 16 –
Wooden Ware	Value	70 – –		70 – –
Wool	Sto. lb.	2063 10	0 10 0 per stone	1031 16 3
Linen Yarn	C. q. lb.	34002 3	6 – – per cwt.	204016 10 0
Yarn — Cotton	Pounds	2436	– 1 – per lb.	121 16 0
Yarn — Worsted	Sto. lb.	66418	1 10 – per stone	99627 0 0
Small Parcels	Value	5916 13 –		5916 13 0
			£.	1865392 14 8

No. VII.

IMPORTS into IRELAND, from that Part of Great-Britain called ENGLAND, for the Year ending 25 March, 1783, diſtinguiſhing each Article, its Quantity and Value.

Denominations.		Quantities.	Medium of the current Market Price.	Total
			£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Ale	Barrels	2669 7/2	at 1 0 0 per barrel	2669 7 8
Apparel	Value	254 15 10		254 15 10
Apples	Buſhels	17	0 3 0 per buſhel	2 11 0
Arms	Value	1039 4 7		1039 4 7
Bacon, Engliſh	Flitches	47	0 13 4 per flitch	31 8 4
Bacon, Foreign	C. q. lb.	4 1 7	2 0 0 per cwt.	8 12 6
Bark	Barrels	8841 7/2	0 7 0 per barrel	30946 2 6
Battery	C. q. lb.	1159 0 21	7 5 0 per cwt.	8400 12 0
Beer	Barrels	51405 5/4	1 0 0 per barrel	51505 2 1
Books, Bound	Value	126 7 10		126 7 10
Books, Unbound	C. q. lb.	228 3 7	10 0 0 per cwt.	2288 2 6
Bullion Silver	Ounces	19540 1/4	0 6 8 per oz.	6513 8 4
Berries Juniper	C. q. lb.	52 1 14	2 0 0 per cwt.	104 15 0
Bottles of Glaſs	Dozens	38755	0 1 6 per doz.	6656 12 0
Braſs Shruff	C. q. lb.	67 1	3 0 0 per cwt.	202 15 0
Bricks	Thouſands	223	1 10 0 per M.	334 10 0
Brimſtone	C. q. lb.	686 3 14	0 16 8 per cwt.	571 13 4
Candlewick	C. q. lb.	490 2 14	3 5 0 per cwt.	1594 10 7 1/2
Capers	Lbs.	2	0 0 8 per lb.	0 1 4
Cards, Wool	Doz. Prs.	966 2	0 8 0 per doz.	386 9 4
Chalk	C. q. lb.	2241 0 7	1 0 0 per cwt.	2241 1 3
Cheeſe	C. q. lb.	3627 2 21	1 10 0 do.	5440 16 10 1/2

Denominations.		Quantities.	Medium of the current Market Price.	Total.
			£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Chocolate	Lbs.	12	at 0 2 6 per lb.	1 10 0
Coaches, Chaiſes, &c.	Value	3421 15		3421 15 0
Coals	Tons	220284 5/6	0 15 0 per ton	165213 12 6
Coffee	C. q. lb.	482 1 14	10 0 0 per cwt.	4823 15 0
Copper Plates and Bricks	C. q. lb.	1450 2 7	5 0 0 do.	7253 2 6
Cordage	C. q. lb.	449 3 21	1 3 4 do.	524 18 8
Cork	C. q. lb.	22 1 0	3 10 0 do.	77 17 6
Corn - Barley and Malt	Qrs.	23300 3/4	1 2 0 per quarter	25630 16 6
Corn - Beans and Peaſe	Qrs.	503 3/4	1 5 0 do.	629 13 3
Corn - Oats	Qrs.	856	0 15 0 do.	642 0 0
Corn - Wheat	Qrs.	518 3/4	2 3 4 do.	1122 6 8
Drapery - New	Yards	409084	0 2 6 per yard	51135 10 0
Drapery - Old	Yards	3717021/2	0 14 0 do.	260191 15 0
Drapery - Shag	Yards	1182 1/4	0 4 0 do.	236 9 0
Drugs	Value	9120 19 10		9120 19 10
Dying Stuffs. Allum	C. q. lb.	2571 3	0 13 0 per cwt.	1671 12 9
Dying Stuffs. Annotto	C. q. lb.	18 1 7	0 18 0 do.	16 19 8
Dying Stuffs. Argal	C. q. lb.	23 0 0	1 2 0 do.	25 6 0
Dying Stuffs. Braziletto	C. q. lb.	65 1 14	0 14 0 do.	45 15 3
Dying Stuffs. Cochineal	Lbs.	4524	1 0 0 per lb.	4524 0 0
Dying Stuffs. Copperas	C. q. lb.	3723 2	0 6 8 per cwt.	1241 3 4
Dying Stuffs. Fuſtick	C. q. lb.	797 3	0 14 0 do.	558 8 6
Dying Stuffs. Galls	C. q. lb.	58 1	3 0 0 do.	174 15 0
Dying Stuffs. Indigo	Lbs.	48998	0 6 8 per lb.	16332 13 4
Dying Stuffs. Logwood	C. q. lb.	2459 1 7	2 5 0 per cwt.	5533 9 0 1/2
Dying Stuffs. Madder	C. q. lb.	200 0 21	1 5 0 do.	250 4 6 1/2
Dying Stuffs. Orchall	C. q. lb.	318 0 0	1 2 0 do.	349 16 0

Denominations.		Quantities.	Medium of the current Market Price.	Total.
			£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Dying Stuffs. Redwood	C. q. lb.	3890 0 14	at 2 0 0 per cwt.	7780 5 0
Sanders	C. q. lb.	35 0 7	6 0 0 do.	210 0 0
Shumack	C. q. lb.	648 3 0	0 13 4 do.	432 10 0
Smalts	Lbs.	2508	0 1 0 per lb.	125 8 0
Stone Blue	Lbs.	112	0 0 7 do.	3 5 4
Weeds or Straw Weed	C. q. lb.	61 1 21	0 7 0 per cwt.	21 9 2¼
Woad	C. q. lb.	102	0 15 0 do.	76 10 0
Small Parcels	Value	1160 1 6		1160 1 6
Earthen Ware	Value	19433 13 5½		19433 13 5½
Elephant's Teeth	No.	389	0 5 0 each	97 5 0
Fans	No.	735	0 1 8 each	61 5 0
Fish Anchovies	Barrels	2	0 16 0 per barrel	1 12 0
Herrings	Barrels	1030	1 0 0 do.	1030 0 0
Oysters	Gallons	5	0 2 0 per gallon	0 10 0
Sturgeon	Kegs	13	0 12 0 per keg	7 16 0
Flax Dressed	C. q. lb.	7 3 21	2 0 0 per cwt.	15 17 6
Undressed	C. q. lb.	2006 1 21	1 15 0 do.	3511 5 4¾
Flints	Thousands	122 4/10	0 2 6 per M.	15 6 0
Furs	Value	336 4 10		336 4 10
Fustians	Ends	5184 21/24	0 15 0 per end	3888 13 1½
Glass - Cases	No.	2183½	1 10 0 each	3274 15 0
Drinking	No.	29032	0 0 2 each	241 18 0
Vials	No.	4160	0 6 8 per hundred	13 17 4
Glass Ware	Value	3883 0 3½		3883 0 3½
Gloves	Pairs	743	0 3 0 per pair	111 9 0
Grindstones	Chalders	47 7/12	0 16 8 per chalder	39 3 4

Denominations.		Quantities.	Medium of the current Market Price.	Total.
			£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Groceries	Almonds — —	C. q. lb. 35 1 7	at 2 15 0 per cwt.	97 2 2¼
	Anniſeeds — —	C. q. lb. 15 0 14	1 6 8 do.	20 3 4
	Cinnamon — —	Lbs. 631	0 8 0 per lb.	252 8 0
	Cloves — —	Lbs. 561	0 10 0 do.	280 10 0
	Cocoa Nuts — —	Lbs. 1127	0 1 0 do.	56 7 0
	Currants — —	C. q. lb. 691 1 7	2 5 0 per cwt.	1555 9 0¾
	Figs — —	C. q. lb. 90 0 0	0 12 6 do.	56 5 0
	Ginger — —	C. q. lb. 190 1 21	1 10 0 do.	285 13 1½
	Hulled Barley —	C. q. lb. 4 0 0	1 2 0 do.	4 8 0
	Liquorice — —	C. q. lb. 197 0 21	1 2 0 do.	216 18 1½
	Mace — —	Lbs. 788	0 16 8 per lb.	656 13 4
	Nutmegs — —	Lbs. 5388	0 10 0 do.	2694 0 0
	Pepper — —	Lbs. 62719	0 1 4 do.	4181 5 0
	Piaminto — —	Lbs. 2082	0 1 0 do.	104 2 0
	Prunes — —	C. q. lb. 632 0 0	0 6 8 per cwt.	210 13 4
	Raiſins — —	C. q. lb. 121 1 0	1 4 0 do.	145 6 0
	Rice — —	C. q. lb. 9 3 14	0 18 0 do.	8 17 9
	Saffron — —	Lbs. 80	1 10 0 per lb.	120 0 0
	Succards — —	Lbs. 235	0 3 0 do.	35 5 0
	Succus Liquoritiæ —	Lbs. 6	0 0 8 do.	2 8 0
	Sugar Candy —	C. q. lb. 4 0 0	4 0 0 per cwt.	16 0 0
	Sugar Loaf —	C. q. lb. 9352 3 7	6 0 0 do.	56116 17 6
	Sugar Muſcovade —	C. q. lb. 89124 2 14	2 5 0 do.	200530 8 1½
	Small Parcels — —	Value 2639 16 0		2639 16 0
Gunpowder	— —	C. q. lb. 396 1 0	3 5 0 do.	1287 16 3
Haberdaſhery	Gold and Silver Twiſt. —	Ounces 116	0 4 6 per ounce	26 2 0
	Inkle wrought — —	Lbs. 13	0 5 2 per lb.	3 7 2

Denominations.		Quantities.	Medium of the current Market Price.	Total.
			£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Dying Stuffs. Redwood	C. q. lb.	3890 0 14	at 2 0 0 per cwt.	7780 5 0
Sanders	C. q. lb.	35 0 7	6 0 0 do.	210 0 0
Shumack	C. q. lb.	648 3 0	0 13 4 do.	432 10 0
Smalts	Lbs.	2508	0 1 0 per lb.	125 8 0
Stone Blue	Lbs.	112	0 0 7 do.	3 5 4
Weeds or Straw Weed	C. q. lb.	61 1 21	0 7 0 per cwt.	21 9 2¼
Woad	C. q. lb.	102	0 15 0 do.	76 10 0
Small Parcels	Value	1160 1 6		1160 1 6
Earthen Ware	Value	19433 13 5½		19433 13 5½
Elephant's Teeth	No.	389	0 5 0 each	97 5 0
Fans	No.	735	0 1 8 each	61 5 0
Fish Anchovies	Barrels	2	0 16 0 per barrel	1 12 0
Herrings	Barrels	1030	1 0 0 do.	1030 0 0
Oysters	Gallons	5	0 2 0 per gallon	0 10 0
Sturgeon	Kegs	13	0 12 0 per keg	7 16 0
Flax Dressed	C. q. lb.	7 3 21	2 0 0 per cwt.	15 17 6
Undressed	C. q. lb.	2006 1 21	1 15 0 do.	3511 5 4¾
Flints	Thousands	122 4/10	0 2 6 per M.	15 6 0
Furs	Value	336 4 10		336 4 10
Fustians	Ends	5184 21/24	0 15 0 per end	3888 13 1½
Glass - Cases	No.	2183½	1 10 0 each	3274 15 0
Drinking	No.	29032	0 0 2 each	241 18 0
Vials	No.	4160	0 6 8 per hundred	13 17 4
Glass Ware	Value	3883 0 3½		3883 0 3½
Gloves	Pairs	743	0 3 0 per pair	111 9 0
Grindstones	Chalders	47 7/12	0 16 8 per chalder	39 3 4

Denominations.		Quantities.	Medium of the current Market Price.	Total.
			£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Groceries	Almonds	C. q. lb. 35 1 7	at 2 15 0 per cwt.	97 2 2¼
	Anniſeeds	C. q. lb. 15 0 14	1 6 8 do.	20 3 4
	Cinnamon	Lbs. 631	0 8 0 per lb.	252 8 0
	Cloves	Lbs. 561	0 10 0 do.	280 10 0
	Cocoa Nuts	Lbs. 1127	0 1 0 do.	56 7 0
	Currants	C. q. lb. 691 1 7	2 5 0 per cwt.	1555 9 0¾
	Figs	C. q. lb. 90 0 0	0 12 6 do.	56 5 0
	Ginger	C. q. lb. 190 1 21	1 10 0 do.	285 13 1½
	Hulled Barley	C. q. lb. 4 0 0	1 2 0 do.	4 8 0
	Liquorice	C. q. lb. 197 0 21	1 2 0 do.	216 18 1½
	Mace	Lbs. 788	0 16 8 per lb.	656 13 4
	Nutmegs	Lbs. 5388	0 10 0 do.	2694 0 0
	Pepper	Lbs. 62719	0 1 4 do.	4181 5 0
	Piaminto	Lbs. 2082	0 1 0 do.	104 2 0
	Prunes	C. q. lb. 632 0 0	0 6 8 per cwt.	210 13 4
	Raiſins	C. q. lb. 121 1 0	1 4 0 do.	145 6 0
	Rice	C. q. lb. 9 3 14	0 18 0 do.	8 17 9
	Saffron	Lbs. 80	1 10 0 per lb.	120 0 0
	Succards	Lbs. 235	0 3 0 do.	35 5 0
	Succus Liquoritiæ	Lbs. 6	0 0 8 do.	2 8 0
	Sugar Candy	C. q. lb. 4 0 0	4 0 0 per cwt.	16 0 0
	Sugar Loaf	C. q. lb. 9352 3 7	6 0 0 do.	56116 17 6
	Sugar Muſcovade	C. q. lb. 89124 2 14	2 5 0 do.	200530 8 1½
	Small Parcels	Value 2639 16 0		2639 16 0
Gunpowder		C. q. lb. 396 1 0	3 5 0 do.	1287 16 3
Haberdaſhery	Gold and Silver Twiſt.	Ounces 116	0 4 6 per ounce	26 2 0
	Inkle wrought	Lbs. 13	0 5 2 per lb.	3 7 2

Denominations.		Quantities.	Medium of the current Market Price.	Total.
			£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Haberdaſhery	Laces — —	Gro. doz.	1017 3 0	at 0 3 6 per groſs	178 0 4½
	Needles — —	Doz. M.	340 51/120	3 2 6 per dozen	1102 17 7½
	Pins — —	Doz. M.	332 5	0 18 0 do.	298 16 0
	Thimbles — —	No.	178264	2 0 0 per thouſand	356 8 10
	Thread — Gold and Silver	Lbs. Oz.	1594 4	2 0 0 per lb.	3188 10 0
	Thread — Outnall —	Lbs.	1730½	0 5 6 do.	475 15 0
	Thread — Siſters — —	Lbs.	74¾	0 15 0 do.	55 10 0
	Thread — Whited brown	Lbs.	38	0 2 8 do.	5 1 4
	Small Parcels — —	Value	10031 15 5½		10031 15 5½
Hair	Camel's —	Lbs.	342	0 8 0 do.	136 16 0
	Goat's —	Lbs.	4119	0 2 6 do.	514 17 6
Hats —		No.	3913	0 15 0 each	2934 15 0
Hemp, undreſſed —		C. q. lb.	2193 0 0	0 15 6 per cwt.	1699 11 0
Hemp Seed —		Hhds.	119½	2 10 0 per hogſhead	298 15 0
Hops —		C. q. lb.	11353 2 7	5 0 0 per cwt.	56767 16 3
Horſes —		No.	15	10 0 0 each	150 0 0
Hardware —		Value	21758 5 6½		21758 5 6½
Ironmongers' Ware.	Iron — —	C. q. lb.	61943 2 0	0 16 0 per cwt.	49554 16 0
	Knives —	No.	579557	0 0 3 each	7244 9 9
	Mermits —	No.	8589	0 2 0 each	808 18 0
	Pots — —	No.	748	0 5 0 do.	187 0 0
	Razors —	No.	14865	0 0 6 do.	371 12 6
	Sciſſars — —	Gro. doz.	757 9	1 5 0 per groſs	947 3 9
	Scythes — —	Doz.	4089	1 0 0 per dozen	4089 0 0
	Small Parcels —	Value	23636 16 11½		23636 16 11½
Iron Ore —		Tons	323	0 15 0 per ton	242 5 0
Ivory, wrought —		Lbs.	635¼	0 12 0 per lb.	381 3 0

Denominations.		Quantities.	Medium of the current Market Price.	Total:
			£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Lace { Gold and Silver	Lbs. Oz.	68 3	at 4 0 0 per lb.	272 15 0
Thread Bone	Yards	2333	0 1 0 per yard	116 13 0
Lamp Black	Lbs.	3741½	0 1 2 per lb.	218 5 1
Latten	C. q. lb.	8 0 7	6 0 0 per cwt.	48 7 6
Lead { Pig	C. q. lb.	6452 1 21	0 10 6 do.	3387 10 7
Red	C. q. lb.	770 3 21	4 5 0 do.	3276 9 8¼
Sheet	C. q. lb.	1407 0 14	0 13 4 do.	961 9 7½
Shot	C. q. lb.	744 2 7	0 15 0 do.	458 8 5¼
White	C. q. lb.	1735 3 7	1 6 8 do.	2114 8 4
Lead Ore	C. q. lb.	10 0 0	4 0 0 per ton	40 0 0
Lime, Lemon and Orange Juice	Gallons	882	0 2 0 per gallon	88 4 0
Linen - { Britiſh	Yards	26189	0 3 0 per yard	3928 17 0
Buckram	Yards	335	0 4 0 do.	67 0 0
Callico, ſtained	Yards	1203	0 5 0 do.	300 15 0
White Callico	Yards	480	0 4 0 do.	96 0 0
Cambrick	Yards	34½	0 6 8 do.	11 10 0
Canvaſs	Yards	17985¾	0 1 2 do.	10491 6 5½
Coloured	Yards	6853½	0 4 0 do.	1371 2 0
Damaſk - { Napkins	Yards	1287	0 5 0 do.	321 15 0
Tabling	Yards	1085½	0 6 0 do.	325 13 0
Diaper { Napkins	Yards	20	0 3 0 do.	3 0 0
Tabling	Yards	30	0 3 4 do.	5 0 0
Kenting	Yards	39145	0 2 0 do.	3914 10 0
Lawns	Yards	1002½	0 3 0 do.	150 7 6
Muſlin	Yards	37192	0 3 6 do.	6608 12 0
Linſeed	Hhds.	680¾	3 0 0 per hhd.	2040 12 10½
Linen, Cotton, and Silk, Brit. Manuf.	Value	118921 3 10		118921 3 10

Denominations.		Quantities.	Medium of the current Market Price.	Total.
			£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Mats	No.	3233	at 0 1 4 each	215 10 8
Meal - Flour	C. q. lb.	2903	0 12 0 per cwt.	1751 16 0
Meal - Wheat	Barrels	52	1 6 8 per barrel	69 6 8
Millinery Ware	Value	6931 11 6½		6931 11 6½
Mill Stones	No.	60	1 5 0 each	75 0 0
Oakum	C. q. lb.	1024 3 14	0 12 6 per cwt.	640 10 11¼
Oranges and Lemons	C. q. No.	421 1 14	0 2 6 do.	52 13 5¼
Oil - Linseed	Gallons	153½	0 2 0 per gallon	15 7 0
Oil - Sevil	Gallons	4563	0 3 4 do.	760 10 0
Oil - Sweet	Gallons	1324 1/10	0 5 0 do.	331 0 6
Oil - Train	Gallons	16147½	0 0 6 do.	403 13 9
Printing Stuffs	Value	2449 13 8		2449 13 8
Paper - Blue	Reams	64½	0 4 0 per ream	12 18 0
Paper - Brown	Bundles	309½	0 3 0 per bundle	46 7 0
Paper - Cap	Reams	947	0 4 4 per ream	205 3 8
Paper - Painted	Reams	35½	0 6 8 do.	11 16 8
Paper - Printing	Reams	1694	0 2 4 do.	197 12 8
Paper - Preſſing	Leaves	65669	0 8 0 per hund. lea.	26267 12 0
Paper - Writing	Reams	2823	0 6 8 per ream	941 0 0
Paſteboard	No.	11750	0 8 0 per hundred	4700 0 0
Pewter	C. q. lb.	78 0 14	4 5 0 per cwt.	332 0 7½
Pictures	Value	694 13 6		694 13 6
Pitch	Barrels	1113	0 10 0 per barrel	556 10 0
Plates of Tin	Barrels	1171 7/20	2 2 0 do.	2459 16 8
Pot Aſhes	C. q. lb.	14836 3 7	1 5 0 per cwt.	18547 15 3¾
Quilts	No.	35	2 0 0 each	70 0 0
Ribband Silk	Lbs. oz.	1853 12	2 0 0 per lb.	3707 10 0

Denominations.		Quantities.	Medium of the current Market Price.	Total.
			£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Rezin	C. q. lb.	166 2 14	at 0 10 0 per cwt.	83 6 3
Sadler's Ware	Value	314 12 2		314 12 2
Salt — Foreign	Buſhels	1358	0 1 6 per buſhel	101 17 0
Salt — Rock	Tons	17488 7/20	0 10 6 per ton	9181 7 7
Salt — White	Buſhels	629160 1/2	0 1 4 per buſhel	41944 0 8
Saltpetre	C. q. lb.	3330 2 14	2 10 0 per cwt.	8326 11 3
Seeds — Clover	C. q. lb.	3264 3 21	0 18 0 do.	2938 8 10 1/2
Seeds — Garden	Lbs.	28605	0 2 4 per lb.	3337 5 0
Silk — Manufactured	Lbs. oz.	16738 2	3 0 0 do.	50214 7 6
Silk — Raw	Lbs. oz.	32656 0	1 0 0 do.	32656 0 0
Silk — Thrown — Dyed	Lbs. oz.	288 14	1 15 0 do.	504 2 2 1/4
Silk — Thrown — Undyed	Lbs. oz.	50581 4	1 5 0 do.	63232 15 0
Slates	Thouſands	2935 1/2	0 6 8 per thouſand	745 3 4
Skins — Buck	No.	4477	0 2 6 each	559 12 6
Skins — Loſh	No.	89	0 10 0 each	44 10 0
Skins — Sheep	C. q. lb.	194 1 25	2 2 0 per cwt.	407 19 10 1/2
Skins — Turkey	No.	39	0 6 8 each	13 0 0
Snuff	Lbs.	479	0 2 6 per lb.	59 17 6
Sope	C. q. lb.	5 0 21	1 5 0 per cwt.	6 9 8 1/4
Sope Aſhes	C. q. lb.	12 0 0	0 16 8 do.	10 0 0
Spirits — Brandy	Gallons	1419 7/8	0 2 0 per gallon	141 19 5 1/2
Spirits — Geneva	Gallons		0 2 0 do.	
Spirits — Rum	Gallons	100536 7/8	0 1 6 do.	7540 1 1 1/2
Stationary Ware	Value	357 1 5		357 1 5
Steel	C. q. lb.	406 1 21	1 5 0 per cwt.	507 16 11 1/4
Stockings — Cotton	Pairs	23396	0 2 8 per pair	3119 9 4
Stockings — Silk	Pairs	1036	0 15 0 do.	777 0 0

Denominations.		Quantities.	Medium of the current Market Price.				Total.		
			£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Stockings — Silk and Cotton	Pairs	192	at 0	7	6	per pair	72	0	0
Stockings — Silk and Worsted	Pairs	580	0	7	0	do.	203	0	0
Stockings — Thread	Pairs	38377	0	2	6	do.	4797	2	6
Stockings — Woollen	Pairs	1207	0	3	0	do.	181	1	0
Stockings — Worsted	Pairs	8878	0	5	0	do.	2219	10	0
Sword Blades	Pairs	1181	0	2	0	each	118	2	0
Sword-cutlers' Ware	Value	466 19 4					466	19	4
Cyder	T. H. G.	281 1 26¼	5	0	0	per ton	1406	16	0½
Tar	Barrels	983½	0	12	0	per barrel	590	2	0
Tea — Bohea	Lbs.	1478080	0	2	0	per lb.	147808	0	0
Tea — Green	Lbs.	570838	0	6	0	do.	171251	8	0
Tobacco	Lbs.	1262641	0	0	6	do.	31566	0	6
Tow	C. q. lb.	320 0 0	1	5	0	per cwt.	400	0	0
Toys	Value	7973 7 11					7973	7	11
Twine	C. q. lb.	21 2 14	3	0	0	do.	64	17	6
Tiles	No.	54678	1	10	0	per thousand	82017	0	0
Tin	C. q. lb.	258 1 21	3	10	0	per cwt.	906	1	3
Velvet	Lb. oz.	8 0 0	3	0	0	per lb.	24	0	0
Vinegar	T. H. G.	10 3 15¾	7	15	0	per ton	83	11	10½
Upholstery Ware	Value	6314 10 3					6314	10	3
Walnuts and others	Barrels	382½	0	10	6	per barrel	200	16	3
Wax, Bee's	Lbs.	6974½	0	1	0	per lb.	348	14	6
Whalebone	C. q. lb.	5 0 21	13	0	0	per cwt.	67	8	9
Wine — French	T. H. G.	129 1 0	25	0	0	per ton	3231	5	0
Wine — Port	T. H. G.	12 2 31½	24	0	0	do.	303	0	0
Wine — Rhenish	T. H. G.	0 0 10½	24	0	0	do.	1	0	0
Wine — Spanish	T. H. G.	1 1 21	30	0	0	do.	40	0	0

Denominations.		Quantities.	Medium of the current Market Price.	Total.
			£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Wood - Barrel Staves	C. q. No.	879 2 20	0 5 0 per hundred	219 18 6
Canes	No.	26250	5 0 0 per thousand	131 5 0
Casks, empty	No.	2231	0 2 6 each	278 17 6
Clapboards	C. q. No.	0 2 0	6 5 0 per cwt.	3 2 6
Hoops	M.	3591	2 0 0 per thousa	61 1 10
Oars	C. q. No.	0 0 6	4 5 0 pe hundre	0 5 3
Planks	Value	1063 7 1		1063 7 1
Timber	Tons, Feet	539 5	2 15 0 pe ton	1482 10 6
Wooden Ware	Value	1551 4		1551 4 0
Wire - Brass	C. q. lb.	0 3 21	6 0 0 per cwt.	5 12 6
Iron	C. q. lb.	28 0 21	2 5 0 do.	63 7 11¼
Latten	C. q. lb.	1317 1 21	4 0 0 do.	5269 15 0
Steel	C. q. lb.	2 0 10	7 5 0 do.	15 2 10½
Wool - Beaver	Lbs.	1977	0 18 0 per lb.	1779 6 0
Cotton	C. q. lb.	2611 2 7	4 0 0 per cwt.	10446 10 0
Eſtridge	C. q. lb.	7 1 0	4 10 0 do.	32 12 6
Spaniſh	C. q. lb.	256 0 14	4 10 0 do.	1152 11 3
Yarn - Cotton	Lbs.	4600½	0 1 6 per lb.	345 0 9
Linen	Lbs.	1894	0 2 0 do.	189 8 0
Mohair	Lbs.	25706½	0 3 0 do.	3855 19 6
Worſted	Lbs.	703½	0 4 0 do.	140 15 6
Small Parcels	Value	13066 13 6		13066 13 6
				2148785 4 7

TRADE with SCOTLAND.

The tables VIII. and IX. give the detail of the whole trade between Ireland and Scotland, for the year ending 25th March, 1783, diſtinguiſhing each article, its quantity and value.

On an average of ten years, ending 5th January, 1778, the imports into Ireland from Scotland were, in value,

	£.
	307,115
Imports into Scotland from Ireland	148,235
Balance in favour of Scotland -	158,880

But the imports from Scotland, for the year ending 25th March, 1783, were,

	£.
	171,670
Exports to Scotland, - -	123,897
Balance in favour of Scotland,	47,773

This alteration ariſes from the loſs Scotland has ſuffered in the tobacco trade. She uſed to ſend to Ireland, yearly, 3500 hogſheads, before the war, and about 1000 during the war. In the year ending 25th March, 1783, Ireland imported from Scotland 1,152,496 lb.; the quantity is now reduced to a few hundred hogſheads.

The quantity of ſugars which Ireland has taken in 1784, from Scotland, is much the ſame as formerly, and other Weſt-India articles nearly ſo.

The balance is likely to be much againſt Scotland for the year 1784, in conſequence of the great number of live cattle ſent thither this year from Ireland, and alſo a very large quantity of corn; the great demand for cattle is probably only temporary, and aroſe from the very ſevere winter with which Scotland has been afflicted, and through which many cattle were ſtarved. Of late years the import of corn from Ireland had greatly decreaſed. Corn had been imported from the Eaſt Countries, or north of Europe, and had, ſince the making the canals, been conveyed

by them acroſs the narrow part of the iſland to the weſt of Scotland. Great Britain would do well to adopt the reciprocal preference offered by the laſt corn act of Ireland, which is, that each kingdom, when its prices denote a probable ſcarcity, ſhall reſort to the other for a ſupply, before ſhe goes to foreigners. There is another circumſtance worthy imitation in this bill, which is, that it does not admit flour into the ports of Ireland, when they are open for corn; by that means the manufacture and advantage is reſerved for her own mills, and the article is alſo better, becauſe corn carries and keeps better in the ſtate of grain than in flour. Great Britain ſhould certainly reſerve the ſame advantage.

Notwithſtanding Scotland is ſo great a linen country, it appears that the value of the linens ſhe takes from Ireland is above half of all her imports from that country. On the other hand, Ireland takes not much leſs of other ſorts of linens from Scotland, kenting alone amounting to 40,235 l. and lawns 11,175 l. in the year 1783. This ſhould remove jealouſy: it ſhews that different fabrics

brics of the ſame manufacture may flouriſh in neighbouring countries to the advantage of both. The annexed tables of imports and exports will ſuggeſt many obſervations to the intelligent. Between 50 and 60 years ago, the annual exports from Ireland to Scotland were about 11,900l. above half of which was oatmeal. The imports from Scotland were 31,700 l., of which coals were above one third, tobacco 7,800 l., linen and kenting 3,500 l.

No.

No. VIII.

Exports from Ireland to Scotland for the Year ended the 25th of March, 1783.

Denominations.		Quantities.	Medium of the current Market Price.	Total Value.		
				£.	s.	d.
Hams	C. q. No.	327 2 14	at 1 10 0 per cwt.	491	8	9
Beef	Barrels, No.	9617½	1 10 0 each	14425	15	0
Ditto	Carcaſes, No.	3	4 0 0 each	12	0	0
Books	C. q. lb.	18 2 0	2 10 0 per cwt.	46	5	0
Bread	C. q. lb.	37 0 0	0 12 0 per cwt.	22	4	0
Bullocks and Cows	No.	233	5 0 0 each	1165	0	0
Barrels, empty	No.	41	0 5 0 each	10	5	0
Butter	C. q. lb.	5157 3 14	2 0 0 per cwt.	10315	15	0
Candles	C. q. lb.	1 1 0	1 16 8 per cwt.	2	5	10
Cheeſe	C. q. lb.	5 0 0	1 0 0 per cwt.	5	0	0
Barley	Qrs. Buſh.	630	1 12 0 per quarter	1008	0	0
Malt	Qrs. Buſh.	30	1 3 0 per quarter	34	10	0
Oats	Qrs. Buſh.	5747	0 9 9 per quarter	2801	13	0
Feathers	C. q. lb.	5 3 14	2 0 0 per cwt.	11	15	0
Herrings	Barrels.	142	0 15 0 per barrel	106	10	0
Glue	C. q. lb.	20 0 0	1 13 4 per cwt.	33	6	8
Glaſs Ware	Value	11 0 0		11	0	0

Denominations.		Quantities.	Medium of the current Market Price.	Total Value.		
				£.	s.	d.
Hogs' Lard	C. q. lb.	62 0 14	1 10 0 per cwt.	93	3	9
Horſes	No.	376	6 0 0 each	2256	0	0
Horns, Ox and Cows	C. q. No.	211 0 0	0 16 8 per hundred	175	16	8
Hides, tanned	No.	47	1 13 4 each	78	6	8
Ditto, untanned	No.	4585	1 6 8 each	6113	6	4
Linen Cloth	Yards	9902$61\frac{1}{2}$	0 1 4 per yard	66017	8	0
Meal, Flour	C. q. lb.	720 0 0	0 15 0 per cwt.	540	0	0
Meal, Oats	Barrels	4768	0 10 6 per barrel	2503	4	0
Ox Guts	Barrels	4	0 16 8 per barrel	4	6	8
Pork	Barrels	$3553\frac{11}{14}$	1 10 0 per barrel	1777	17	0
Salt	Buſhels	60	0 1 3 per buſhel	3	15	0
Skins, Calves	Doz. No.	3992 6	1 2 6 per dozen	499	11	3
Sope	C. q. lb.	79 0 0	1 13 4 per cwt.	131	13	4
Starch	C. q. lb.	4 0 0	1 6 8 per cwt.	5	6	8
Tallow	C. q. lb.	626 2 21	2 0 0 per cwt.	1253	7	6
Tongues	Doz.	$348\frac{1}{4}$	0 12 0 per dozen	208	19	0
Yarn, Linen	C. q. lb.	1798 3 10	6 0 0 per cwt.	10793	0	9
Yarn, Worſted	Sto. lb.	259 0	1 10 0 per ſtone	129	10	0
Small Parcels	Value	810 6 3		810	6	3
			£.	123897	12	1

No. IX.

Imports from Scotland into Ireland for the Year ended the 25th of March, 1783.

Denominations.		Quantities.	Medium of the current Market Price.	Total Value.
			£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Ale	Barrels	127½	at 1 0 0 per barrel	127 6 8
Apparel	Value	206 5 1		206 5 1
Bark	Barrels	1003	0 7 0 per barrel	351 1 0
Beer	Barrels	190¾	1 0 0 per barrel	190 5 0
Books { Bound	Value	65 0 0		65 0 0
Books { Unbound	C. q. lb.	61 1 0	10 0 0 per cwt.	612 5 0
Bullion, Silver	Ounces	1	0 6 8 per oz.	0 6 8
Bottles of Glaſs	Doz.	3483½	0 1 6 per doz.	261 4 6
Bricks	Thouſands	1 1/16	1 10 0 per thouſand	2 12 0
Coaches, Chaiſes	Value	509 0 0		509 0 0
Coals	Tons	21047⅝	0 15 0 per ton	15785 5 0
Barley and Malt	Quarters	3	1 2 0 per quarter	3 6 0
Beans and Peaſe	Quarters	1½	1 5 0 ditto	1 17 6
Wheat	Quarters	240	2 3 4 ditto	520 0 0
Drapery { New	Yards	11331	0 2 6 per yard	1416 7 6
Drapery { Old	Yards	169	0 14 0 ditto	118 6 0

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Denominations.		Quantities.	Medium of the current Market Price.	Total Value.
			£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Drugs — — —	Value	0 2 6		0 2 6
Dying Stuffs — Copperas —	C. q. lb.	1617 2 7	at 0 6 8 per cwt.	539 3 9
Dying Stuffs — Fuſtick —	C. q. lb.	70 0 0	0 14 0 do.	49 0 0
Dying Stuffs — Smalts —	Lbs.	68	0 13 4 do.	40 16 8
Dying Stuffs — Small Parcels	Value	1616 4 0		1616 4 0
Earthen Ware — —	Do.	60 1 9		60 1 9
Fiſh — Cod — —	C. q. No.	1 2 5	4 0 0 per hundred	6 4 0
Fiſh — Herrings — —	Barrels	154½	1 0 0 per barrel	154 10 0
Fiſh — Ling — —	C. q. No.	281 1 5	4 10 0 per hundred	1265 17 0
Fiſh — Salmon — —	Tons, Trs.	10 1	12 0 0 per ton	122 0 0
Flax, undreſt — —	C. q. lb.	157 1 14	1 15 0 per cwt.	275 3 1½
Tuſteans — — —	Ends	¾	0 15 0 per end	0 11 3
Glaſs Caſes — —	No.	21	1 10 0 each	31 10 0
Glaſs Ware — —	Value	1 19 6		1 19 6
Gloves — — —	Pairs	36	0 3 0 per pair	5 8 0
Hulled Barley — —	C. q. lb.	66 2 0	1 2 0 per cwt.	73 3 0
Loaf Sugar — — —	Do.	518 3 14	6 0 0 do.	3113 5 0
Sugar, Muſcovado — —	Do.	10115 3 14	2 5 0 do.	22758 15 0
Small Parcels — —	Value	0 15 0		0 15 0

Denominations.		Quantities.	Medium of the current Market Price.	Total Value.
			£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Haberdashery — Thread — Outnal	Lbs.	10082¾	at 0 5 6 per lb.	2771 15 1½
Haberdashery — Thread — Sifters	Do	1217¼	0 15 0 do.	912 13 3
Haberdashery — Thread — Whited Brown	Do.	450½	0 2 8 do.	60 1 4
Haberdashery — Small Parcels	Value	124 0 11		124 11 0
Hats	No.	18	0 15 0 each	13 10 0
Horses	No.	192	10 0 0 do.	1920 0 0
Hard Ware	Value	12 3 4		12 3 4
Ironmongers' Ware — Iron	C. q. lb.	3144 1 0	0 16 0 per cwt.	2515 8 0
Ironmongers' Ware — Knives	No.	264	0 3 0 each	3 6 0
Ironmongers' Ware — Mermits	No.	1208	0 2 0 do.	120 16 0
Ironmongers' Ware — Small Parcels	Value	269 17 11		269 17 11
Ivory, Wrought	Lbs.	8¼	0 12 0 per lb.	4 19 0
Lead, White	C. q. lb.	5	1 6 8 per cwt.	6 13 4
Linen — British	Yards	5902¾	0 3 0 per yard	938 8 2
Linen — Cambricks	Do.	407½	0 6 8 do.	135 16 8
Linen — Canvass	Do.	7638	0 1 2 do.	440 11 0
Linen — Coloured	Do.	4925	0 4 0 do.	985 0 0
Linen — Kenting	Do.	402356½	0 2 0 do.	40235 12 0
Linen — Lawns	Do.	74507	0 3 0 do.	11175 11 0
Linen — Muslin	Do.	80	0 3 6 do.	14 0 0

Denominations.		Quantities.	Medium of the current Market Price.	Total Value.
			£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Linſeed — — —	Hhds.	100½	at 3 0 0 per hundred	301 10 0
Linen, Cotton and Silk, Britiſh Manufactures —	Value	5388 14 6		5388 14 6
Mats — — —	No.	16	0 1 4 each	1 1 4
Meal Flour — —	C. q. lb.	1447 0 14	0 12 0 per cwt.	868 4 0
Millinery Ware — —	Value	1714 4 2		1714 4 2
Oil — Linſeed — —	Gallons	20	0 2 0 per gallon	2 0 0
Oil — Sweet — —	Do.	52	0 5 0 do.	13 0 0
Oil — Train — —	Do.	4666 3/10	0 0 6 do.	116 14 8
Painting Stuffs — —	Value	10 6 8		10 6 8
Paper — Blue — —	Reams	3	0 4 0 per ream	0 12 0
Paper — Printing — —	Do.	1010	0 2 4 do.	1017 16 0
Pitch — — —	Barrels	10	0 10 0 per barrel	5 0 0
Plates of Tin — —	Do.	1/5	2 2 0 do.	0 8 4
Pot Aſhes — — —	C. q. lb.	18 2 0	1 5 0 per cwt.	23 2 6
Sadlers' Ware — —	Value	75 0 0		75 0 0
Salt — Foreign — —	Buſhels	3713	0 1 6 per buſhel	278 9 6
Salt — Rock — —	Tons	28½	0 10 6 per ton	14 19 3
Salt — White — —	Buſhels	3006	0 1 4 per buſhel	209 8 0

Denominations.		Quantities.	Medium of the current Market Price.	Total Value.
			£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Seeds { Clover — —	C. q. lb.	369 2 21	at 0 18 0 per cwt.	332 4 4½
Seeds { Garden — —	Lbs.	798	0 2 4 per lb.	93 2 0
Silk, manufactured — —	Lbs. oz.	3006 12½	3 0 0 per lb.	9020 6 9
Slates — — —	Thousands	83	0 6 8 per thousand	27 13 4
Skins { Losh — —	No.	216	0 10 0 each	108 0 0
Skins { Sheep — —	C. q lb.	17 3 10	2 2 0 per cwt.	37 9 3
Snuff — — —	Lbs.	7½	0 2 6 per lb.	0 18 9
Sope — — —	C. q. lb.	442 2 21	1 5 0 per cwt.	553 7 1¼
Spirits, Rum — —	Gallons	29414½	0 1 6 per gallon	2206 1 9
Starch — — —	C. q. lb.	3 3 14	0 16 8 per cwt.	3 4 7
Stationary Ware — —	Value	0 8 0		0 8 0
Steel — — —	C. q lb.	203 3 0	1 5 0 do.	254 13 3
Stockings { Cotton — —	Pairs	348	0 2 8 per pair	46 8 0
Stockings { Silk — —	Do.	6	0 15 0 do.	4 10 0
Stockings { Thread —	Do.	22233	0 2 6 do.	2779 0 0
Stockings { Woollen — —	Do.	99	0 3 0 do.	14 17 0
Stockings { Worsted — —	Do.	66	0 5 0 do.	16 10 0
Cyder — — —	Tons. C. qr.	1	5 0 0 per ton	5 0 0
Tar — — —	Barrels	478	0 12 0 per barrel	286 16 0
Tobacco — —	Lbs.	1152496	0 0 6 per lb.	28812 8 0

Denominations.		Quantities.	Medium of the current Market Price.	Total Value.
			£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Toys — — —	Value	0 18 6		0 18 6
Tin — — —	C. q. lb.	56 3 14	at 3 10 0 per cwt.	199 1 3
Upholstery Ware — —	Value	1929 12 7½		1929 12 7½
Wine, Port — —	Tons. H. qr.	1 1 5 2½	24 0 0 per ton	35 0 0
Wood — Balk — —	C. q. No.	0 3 5	20 0 0 per hundred	16 0 0
Wood — Barrel Staves —	Do.	70 3 10	0 5 0 do.	17 14 3
Wood — Canes — —	No.	10	5 0 0 per thousand	0 1 0
Wood — Casks, empty —	No.	534	0 2 6 each	66 15 0
Wood — Deals — —	C. q. No.	39 2 15	4 5 0 per hundred	162 10 3
Wood — Hoops — —	Thousand	19	2 0 0 per thousand	0 0 9½
Wood — Timber — —	Tons. Feet	127 5	2 15 0 per ton	349 5 3
Wood — Wooden Ware —	Value	194 1 7		194 1 7
Wool, Cotton — —	C. q. lb.	94 0 21	4 0 0 per cwt.	376 15 0
Wire, Latten — —	Do.	0 3 0	4 0 0 do.	3 0 0
Yarn — Cotton — —	Lbs.	1904	0 1 6 per lb.	142 16 0
Yarn — Linen — —	Lbs.	359	0 2 0 do.	35 18 0
Yarn — Worsted — —	Lbs.	112	0 4 0 do.	22 8 0
Small Parcels — —	Value	639 7 1		639 7 1
			£.	171670 14 7¼

TRADE WITH BRITISH COLONIES.

It is not eaſy to ſpeak with preciſion as to the future trade of Ireland with the Britiſh colonies; we muſt not judge from the efforts made at the latter end of a war, or from what has been done on the flurry of firſt opening the trade of the colonies to Ireland, for the ſhort time ſince the peace. Every warehouſe and ſhop of that country has been emptied of commodities, good, bad, and indifferent, particularly the two laſt, for exportation; we cannot, however, acknowledge that there was much foreſight, at the time the commercial character of the nation was to be formed, and alſo the character of its manufactures, in ſending out every thing that was bad. Indeed that part which went to the American States will not be paid for, although the worſt woollens and iron ware, &c. which have been ſent, will be ſold or exchanged with the poor Indians, at a profit of 100 per cent.

An ABSTRACT of the Hereditary Revenue and Additional Duties, for one Year, with the Ex

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
BALANCES on the Collector's Accounts at Lady-day, 1783	97062	3	2			
The like on the Stamp Duties { In the Hands of Collectors of Excise £.3340 12 0¾ / In the Hands of Stamp Officers 7465 4 11¾ }	10805	17	0½			
The like in the Hands of the Paymaster of Corn Premiums	2	0	3			
Arrears on the Revenue standing out at said Time	145251	18	10½			
				253121	19	4
HEREDITARY REVENUE.						
Customs Inwards	228952	3	0½			
Customs Outwards	28556	17	3			
Imported Excise	146331	11	5¾			
Prizage on Wines	3260	0	0			
Light-house Duties	741	5	9½			
Fines and Seizures	4502	17	5¼			
Forfeitures	514	9	4			
Casualties	950	1	10			
Inland Excise	76547	2	0			
Ale Licenses	8567	9	9½			
Wine and Strong-water Licenses	27699	13	4¼			
Storage	226	16	0			
Quit, &c. Rents	64386	2	2⅝			
Hearth-money for the Year, payable 21st January, 1783	61309	13	11			
Proportion of the Duties on Teas	7300	0	0			
				639826	4	8⅞
ADDITIONAL DUTIES.						
Tobacco	118860	9	2¾			
Wine	61859	10	1			
Muslin, 1st	509	16	11			
Muslin, 2d	345	13	9			
Romals, foreign	350	13	8			
Paper, foreign	437	0	1			
Foreign Silk Manufacture	151	3	2			
Vinegar	1674	0	11			
Hops	7669	11	1½			
Earthen, japanned and lacquered Wares	921	10	5			
Sugar, raw	103971	7	7½			
Sugar, refined	11274	6	8			
Five per Cent. on foreign dry Goods	3998	12	10			
Coffee, 2d	311	17	10			
Linen Rags exported	1	11	6			
Six per Cent. on Retailers	499	8	9			
Wheat, foreign, imported	490	1	3			
Residue of the Duties on Teas, after applying 7300l. to hereditary Revenue	29279	0	8			
Cider Licenses	88	0	0			
Ale and Beer	33057	8	2½			
Beer, imported	1132	10	1			
Sundry Articles in the Act for the Advancement of Trade	560	19	2			
Duty on Carriages for one Year, ending Christmas, 1783	4917	10	0			
				382352	11	11
STAMP DUTIES.						
Stamped Vellum, Parchment and Paper, and Value of Vellum, Parchment and Paper, and Penalties	—		—	34580	1	2
				1329880	17	1⅞

No. X.

he Expence of Management, Drawbacks, Premiums, &c. from Lady-day, 1783 to Lady-day, 1784.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
SALARIES on the Revenue Eſtabliſhments	92336	11	10¼			
Incident Charges	77318	15	9¾			
Portage Bills	2048	11	3½			
Drawbacks	3952	13	7			
Drawbacks of Inland Exciſe on Beer, Ale and Strong-waters, exported	134	19	10¾			
Rewards for convicting Burglary	5	0	0			
Premiums on — Sugar refined exported	971	19	3½			
Corn imported	6708	5	1½			
Corn and Flour exported	2192	16	0½			
Inland Carriage of Corn and Flour to Dublin	31408	6	7			
Corn and Flour brought Coaſtways to Dublin	10516	3	0			
Fiſhing Veſſels	16527	17	5			
Iriſh cured Fiſh, exported	3240	13	9½			
Iriſh Coals brought to Dublin	282	3	0			
Wrought Silk, exported	470	19	9			
Silks and Stuffs, exported	105	3	10¾			
Light-houſe Expences	1520	19	1			
Wine Warrants to Privy Counſellors	1362	9	0			
Quarantine Expences	552	13	2			
Rewards for apprehending Deſerters	178	0	0			
Arrears of inland Exciſe	2553	6	8¼			
Allowance claimed for Hearth-money Collectors, and Gaugers' Balances	250	18	0			
Salaries to Hearth-money Officers	6180	0	0			
Hearth-money Incidents, and Allowance to Conſtables	1093	10	7¾			
				261912	16	11½
DRAWBACKS ON ADDITIONAL DUTIES.						
Tobacco	11422	18	8			
Wine	1765	14	7			
Muſlin, 1ſt	6	8	2			
Muſlin, 2d	6	8	2			
Foreign Romals	6	8	2			
Vinegar	65	3	2			
Sugar, raw	1962	16	3			
Hops	18	2	4			
Coffee, 2d	142	3	11			
Foreign Wheat	296	18	0			
Iriſh Beer, exported	92	1	10			
Engliſh Beer, exported	16	10	1			
Five per Cent. on Foreign dry Goods	295	7	2			
Earthen-ware	56	18	1			
Sundry Articles in the Act for the Advancement of Trade	6	2	1			
				16160	0	8
Salaries to Stamp Officers	5581	9	1			
Incident Charges	2304	5	8¾			
Diſcount allowed on Payment of 10l. and upwards, and Allowances	377	15	8½			
				8263	10	6¼
PAYMENTS made to the VICE-TREASURERS in the Year ending Lady-Day, 1784; viz.						
Ordinary Revenue	737874	7	4¾			
Quit Rents	133	11	7			
Caſualties	950	1	10			
Diſmiſſed Collectors	9216	18	7			
The like on Account of Stamp Duties	24138	17	9½			
Making together				772313	17	2½
Balances at Lady-day, 1784 — Collectors' Accounts	115144	6	8½			
Balances at Lady-day, 1784 — Stamp Duties — In the Hands of Collectors of Exciſe	5255	5	1¾			
Balances at Lady-day, 1784 — Stamp Duties — In the Hands of Stamp Officers	7728	4	9			
Balances at Lady-day, 1784 — In the Hands of Paymaſter of Corn Premiums	593	13	8			
Arrears at Lady-day, 1784 — Diſmiſſed and deceaſed Collectors £.64167 2 1¾						
Arrears at Lady-day, 1784 — Hearth-money 46297 15 7½						
Arrears at Lady-day, 1784 — Quit, &c. Rents 32044 3 9¾						
	142509	1	6⅝			
				271230	11	9⅞
				1329880	17	1⅞

THOMAS BURGH,

Comptroller and Accountant-General.

TRADE WITH THE BRITISH WEST INDIES.

It has been already remarked, that the Britiſh Weſt Indies have a demand for almoſt every produce and manufacture of Ireland, and therefore the export to them may become very great, unleſs, indeed, the Miniſter's very remarkable ſyſtem of ſacrificing the commercial, as well as the marine principle of the navigation laws, ſhould take place. If that ruinous ſyſtem ſhould continue to be averted, the dependence of the planters on the Britiſh merchants and their connections, will be the means of bringing moſt of the Weſt-India produce to Great Britain; but if the trade of the Weſt Indies is to be opened to the American States, the trade of Ireland with the Weſt Indies muſt almoſt entirely ceaſe.

The American States may furniſh moſt of the proviſions that Ireland does; and as to manufactures, an immediate intercourſe will be opened for linen through North Ame-

America, with all the linen countries of Europe, and ſo far as the produce of the Weſt Indies can find a market in thoſe countries, North America will procure it; North America may traffic therewith for a great part of what ſhe would otherwiſe take from Great Britain or Ireland. In ſhort, if it be injurious to allow a free intercourſe between the Weſt Indies and all countries, and in all articles, of which there can be no doubt, the allowing it with any one foreign ſtate is virtually allowing it with all, and Ireland will be under circumſtances infinitely worſe than ſhe was before the extenſion of her trade, becauſe great quantities of her proviſions and linens then went there, which, in the event now alluded to, would not.

The quantity of ſugars imported into Ireland at different periods, were as follow:

		Cwt.	q.	lb.	£.	s.	d.
1753	Candy -	57	1	21	132,603	1	3
	Loaf -	1791	1	7			
	Muſcovado	88,817	2	14			
	White -	4287	3	21			

Of

Of the muſcovado, 52,010 cwt. and 499 cwt. of white, came in the above year from Spain and Portugal.

		Cwt.	q.	lb.	£.	s.	d.
1763	Candy	53	3	7	148,921	19	5½
	Loaf	1,018	1	7			
	Muſco.	103,558	0	21			
	White	3,366	1	7			

Of the muſcovado in that year, 2638 cwt. came from Spain and Portugal.

		Cwt.	q.	lb.	£.	s.	d.
1773	Candy	36	0	7	312,143	0	0½
	Loaf -	10,664	1	0			
	Muſco.	201,109	3	21			
	White	531	0	21			

		Cwt.	q.	lb.	£.	s.	d.
1783	Candy	4	0	0	358,750	3	9
	Loaf -	9,871	2	21			
	Muſco.	133,110	1	0			
	White	0	0	0			

Of the latter, all the candy was from England; of the loaf, 9352 cwt. 3q. 7lb. from England; 518 cwt. 3q. 14lb. from

Scotland; of muſcovado from the following places:

	Cwt.	quar.	lbs.
England - -	89,124	2	14
Scotland - -	10,115	3	14
Antigua - -	12,809	3	21
Barbadoes - -	3,303	1	0
Jamaica - -	4,577	1	7
Newfoundland - -	11	3	0
St. Kitt's - -	3,867	2	7
Tortola - -	5,280	1	21
Weſt Indies in general -	4,019	2	0

Imports into Ireland from the Weſt Indies, in the year ending 25th March, 1783.

	Total quantities.		
Chocolate, lbs. - -	5		
Coffee, cwt. q. lb. -	214	2	7
Drugs, value - -	18	6	0
Cocoa nuts, lbs. -	70	0	0
Indigo, lbs. - -	166	0	0
Ginger, cwt. q. lbs. -	211	1	7
Pepper, lbs. - -	13	0	0
Piamento, lbs. - -	10,611	0	0
Saffron, lbs. - -	56½	0	0
Succards, lbs. - -	501½	0	0
Sugar, muſcovado, cwt.	33,858	0	0

Small

	Total quantities.		
Small parcels of groceries, val.	3	14	8
Snuff, lbs. - -	9	0	0
Rum, gallons -	297,038	0	0
Brandy, gallons -	2½	0	0
Tobacco, lbs. -	301,598	0	0
Bees wax, lbs. -	280	0	0
Barrel ſtaves, cwt. q. No -	60	0	0
Planks, value - -	33	15	6
Wooden ware, value -	84	10	0
Timber, tons, feet -	7	0	0
Cotton wool, cwt. q. lb.	1,092	1	7

BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES.

The export trade of Ireland to the remaining colonies of Great Britain, in North America, will be conſiderable. In the year ending 25th March, 1783, ſhe exported,

	To Newfoundland.	To Nova Scotia.	To Quebec.
Beer - - - - Barrels.	205	20	8
Beef - - - - Barrels.	1668⅔	309½	656⅔
Bread - - - C. qr. lbs.	63683 14	21	240
Butter - - C. qr. lbs.	2442 2	251 3	1805 1 14
Candles - - C. qr. lbs.	228 14	343 3 14	1217 3 0
Oats - - Qrs. buſhels.	107 4	0	0
New drapery - - Yards.	1120	11123	2800
Old drapery - - Yards.	94	984	0
Flannel - - - Yards.	0	1744	0
Gloves - - - - Pairs.	48	1014	0
Haberdaſhery - Value.	10 7 1	614 16 6	0
Hats - - - - - No.	273	516	0
Drinking glaſſes. - No.	0	2400	0
Tanned hides C. qr. lb.	24 24	N° 87	0
Wrought iron C. qr. lb.	2	5	0
Linen cloth - - Yards	3958	123,534	10,383
Ditto, coloured Yards.	78½	6547	193
Flour - - - C. qr. lbs.	1721 2 14	0	6
Oatmeal - - C. qr. lbs.	1921 0 ¾	0	312
Pork - - - - Barrels.	6889½	518	1466½
Shoes - - - - - lbs.	991	690	784
Silk manufac. - lbs. oz.	0	136	
Sope - - - C. qr. lbs.	161 2 14	107 2	266
Woollen ſtockings } Doz. No.	79	42	0
Worſted Do. Doz. No.	96 2	20 6	180
Sugar, Loaf, C. q. lbs.	46 2 17	0	0

Beſides apparel and other articles of no great amount.

Her

Her importations the ſame year from thoſe colonies were of ſmall value, and conſiſted of few articles.

	Newfoundland. Cwt. Qrs.	Nova Scotia.	Quebec.
Cod - - - -	529 2	——	——
Salmon - -	32 tons	——	——
Train oil -	43,743 gals.	——	——
		Cwt.	Cwt. Qr. Nº
Barrel ſtaves -	——	120	430 1 25

	£.	s.	d.
Total Iriſh produce exported to the Britiſh Plantations, on an average of 9 years ending 25th March, 1782,	281,125	10	9
Ditto exported to ditto in the year ending 25th March, 1783, - -	381,617	1	7
Total imports from the Britiſh Plantations on an average of 9 years, ending 25th March, 1782, - -	103,205	2	4
Ditto from ditto in the year ending 25th March, 1783, - - -	118,145	8	3

TRADE WITH THE AMERICAN STATES.

Ireland as well as Great Britain having exported goods and manufactures to the American ſtates in the years 1783 and 1784 beyond any poſſibility of preſent, or probable diſpoſition of future payment, it is much to be feared that the capitals of her merchants, and conſequently her general trade, will greatly ſuffer. Ireland with a characteriſtic

riſtic eagerneſs, tranſmitted to the new ſtates every exportable article that her warehouſes and ſhops could furniſh; and it is much wiſhed, at leaſt by the writer of theſe obſervations, that ſhe could ſtand the ſhock of her impending diſappointments as well as Great Britain. It is alſo wiſhed, that ſhe may be more circumſpect in future, and be convinced that a gradual and ſteady trade will in the end be more permanent and beneficial than ſudden efforts, which bear neither the advantage of fore-knowledge nor the guidance of diſcretion.

In return for manufactures, Ireland might be advantageouſly paid in tobacco, indigo, rice, flax ſeed, pot aſh, and naval ſtores. But ſhe will find rivals for tobacco, and ſome of the other articles, that will ſurpaſs her. North America has not commodities at preſent to ſatisfy all her cuſtomers.

The greater part of the above articles ſhe has taken from Great Britain, even ſince her ports were open for them from other countries; and above two thirds of her importation of tobacco was from thence in the year

year ending 25th March, 1783. Indeed the war has not been ended long enough to aſcertain what alterations peace will make. The writer of theſe obſervations has not yet ſeen the cuſtom-houſe accounts of Ireland to a later period than 25th March, 1783. To give an account of the Iriſh imports and exports to and from the American ſtates previous to that time, will decide little as to what is likely to be the trade after peace has been ſometime eſtabliſhed. However it is probable the greater part of American tobacco will come to Great Britain, and that ſhe will continue to be the mart for that article as well as for ſeveral of the others; for if a miniſter ſhould unadviſedly or raſhly attempt to ſacrifice that part of the navigation laws on which the commercial reſpectability and naval ſtrength of this iſland depend, the people muſt and would undoubtedly interfere, and the deſtructive meaſure muſt be revoked. But what will that miniſter deſerve of the two kingdoms, who offers and promiſes to the one what cannot be conceded by the other, and induces between the two, the alternative either of a moſt ſevere diſappointment or of certain ruin. Ireland is not likely

to

to import tobacco, rice or indigo to any conſiderable amount; it is not her intereſt in particular, that this trade ſhould change its courſe: it is enough to ſay, that if a revolution ſhould take place in that trade, and thoſe articles ſhould ceaſe to go through the medium of Great Britain to the linen countries in the north of Europe, the linen manufacture of Ireland may ſuffer. Thoſe countries uſed to take above half the tobacco exported from Great Britian.

In the year 1773, the quantity of tobacco ſhe exported to the countries north of France amounted to 54,925,491 lbs. at 4d.

To France - -	31,750,123
To Ireland - -	6,189,773
To other countries	3,911,056
Total export - -	96,776,443

Of rice, above 6 parts in 7 of the export from Great Britain went to the linen countries; of indigo, above half.

The average import of tobacco into Ireland from all parts, for ten years, ending 25th March, 1783, was 4,378,551 lbs.

In

In the year ending 25th March 1783, Ireland imported of tobacco,

	lbs.
From England - -	1,262,641
Scotland - -	1,152,496
Jerſey - - -	56,186
Denmark and Norway	58,190
Flanders and Holland	80,303
Sweden - - -	60,950
Weſt Indies - -	301,598
America (New York)	487,483
Total - - -	3,459,861

and ſhe exported the ſame year only 844lbs. which were ſhipped to Holland and Flanders.

The conſumption probably did not fall off ſo much as appears in the ſtatement; ſmuggling may have ſupplied much of the deficiency.

In the ſame year 150cwt. 0qrs. 21lbs. of rice were imported; of which 140cwt. 1qr. 7lbs. came from Portugal, the ſmall remainder from England. This is below the uſual

quantity imported by Ireland; but her importations of this article have been very irregular.

Indigo imported into Ireland the ſame year,

	lbs.
From England - -	48,998
Flanders - -	1,316
France - - -	2,806½
Portugal - -	1,365
Carolina - - -	120
Jamaica - - -	166
New England - -	500
New York - - -	4,908
Tortola - - -	600
	60,779½

The Iriſh demand for American flax ſeed has diminiſhed, and is likely to diminiſh; ſhe has lately been principally ſupplied with that article from Flanders, and the ſeed from thence or Holland was greedily bought up this year (1784) in Ireland, for ſowing, at 4l. 15s. and 5l. the hogſhead of 7 buſhels, while the American ſold for 50s. or leſs. The

Par-

Parliament of Ireland and the Linen Board have turned their attention ſtrongly to promote the ſupply of Iriſh ſeed within theſe four years, and the ſeed preſerved there, bears an equal price with the American. It is purpoſed to diſtribute this year in premiums on the growth of flax to the amount of 16,000l.; ſo that it is probable in a few years little ſeed will be imported into Ireland except to refreſh the ſpecies; and it is poſſible ſhe may ſupply conſiderably to Great Britain for oil.

The conſumption in Ireland, of American pot aſh, even before the war, was trifling; ſhe was principally ſupplied from the Eaſt Country and Spain. The American States are likely to produce leſs than they did.

As to naval ſtores, it is not ſurpriſing that the demand ſhould be ſmall, in a country ſo unaccountably inattentive to the whole buſineſs of ſhip building.

For ſuch an iſland, her quantity of ſhipping is comparatively inſignificant; and even at preſent ſhe does not ſeem to underſtand

the difference between building ſhips at home or in America.

Her demand for naval ſtores cannot be great, and it will not be entirely from America. This year four ſhips went from Archangel, three to Dublin and one to Belfaſt, and imported 4823 barrels of tar, 2468 barrels of pitch, 484 pood of turpentine, 500 pood of hemp, 2630 pood* of iron.

As to the exports from Ireland to the American States, they will be in manufactures; they will become conſiderable hereafter, and at preſent they will be much more than the States can pay for, in money, bills, or commodities.

TRADE WITH PORTUGAL.

The butter alone which Ireland ſent to Portugal in the year ending 25th March, 1783, paid for all imports from that country.

* The Ruſſia pood is nearly equal to 36 lbs. avoirdupois weight.

Total

	£.	s.	d.
Total exports from Ireland to Portugal -	174,493	18	10
Of which 46,055 cwt. of butter, at 40s. per cwt. amounted to 92,111 l.			
Total imports from Portugal into Ireland the ſame year - -	92,000	8	7¾
Balance in favour of Ireland - -	82,493	10	2¼

Next to butter, her greateſt export to that country conſiſts of woollens, viz. in 1783:

New drapery, 366,743 yards, value 36,674l.
Old drapery, 2,660 yards, value 866 l.
Flannel, 1,302 yards, at 10d. 54 l. 5 s.

Next to woollens are beefand pork.

13,079⅝ barrels of beef,
5,530½ ditto of pork,
2,086¼ cwt. of tallow and hogs' lard,
129 dozens of tongues,
151 flitches of bacon,
1612 cwt. of cheeſe,
1463 lbs. of ſhoes,

Of

Of fiſh ſhe ſent only

Cod, barrels,	20
Cod, cwt.	5
Hake, cwt.	475½
Herrings, barrels,	290½
Ling, cwt.	10¾
Salmon, tons,	6
Of beer, barrels,	106¼

But ſhe ſent only of linens,
43,125 yds. of plain, at 16d. per yd. 2,875l.
19,892 ditto of coloured, at 19d. per yard,
1,616 l. 4s. 6d.

In 1781 Portugal prohibited the importation of printed linens from Ireland, and even ordered ſuch parcels as were then in the cuſtom houſe to be ſent out of the kingdom.

The Portugueſe make a good deal of common linen for their own conſumption, and a coarſe kind of table linen, and their demand for fine linen from other countries is not conſiderable. The French white linens imported into Portugal in 1776 and 1777, amounted only to 20,000 pieces, and the Cambrayas

brayas were not ſo much. But the great importation is of narrow Britannias, from Hamburgh, amounting, in 1777, to near 200,000 pieces. Theſe are conſumed in the Portugueſe colonies; and the manufacture of Britain and Ireland has not yet rivalled them in cheapneſs. Iriſh linens pay as 120, while French pay only as 100, &c. the Iriſh being imported as olanda contrafata *.

Her principal imports from Portugal are wine and ſalt. Imported from Portugal, year ending 25th March, 1783,

	£.	s.	d.
Wine, 1949 tons, 3 hogſheads, 42 gallons - -	46,907	17	6
Salt, 326,170 buſhels -	21,744	13	4
Oranges and lemons, 34,507 hund. -	4,313	9	8
Raiſins, 791 cwt. - -	890	0	0
Oil { Seville, 19,252½ gallons	3,208	15	0
Oil { Sweet, 468 ditto -	117	0	0

* Veſſels going on the ſouthern whale fiſhery might diſpoſe of a large quantity of coarſe linens on the coaſt of South America. It is ſaid the Brazils pay 100 per cent. duty on every thing from Portugal.

	£.	s.	d.
Pot aſhes, 4132cwt. -	5,165	0	0
Spirits, brandy, 7684 gallons	768	9	0
Cotton wool, 106cwt. 1q.	425	10	0
Cork, 1249cwt. 1q. -	4,372	7	6
Indigo, 1365lbs. -	455	0	0
Shumack, 1069 cwt. -	712	13	4
Figs, 258½cwt. - -	161	10	6
Almonds, 44 cwt. -	121	10	0

It is probable that both the import and export trade to Portugal will increaſe, and that in the great articles of beef, butter, and pork, Ireland will not be rivalled. Cheeſe is an increaſing article, becauſe it is of a better quality than formerly; but a large quantity of cheeſe for exportation cannot be expected from a country that makes much butter. It is ſaid the import of that article from Holland into Portugal is not leſs than 50,000l. ſterling annually. Herrings, hake, and other fiſh, are articles of probable increaſe of export to that country. The camblet trade, which was always admitted, and previous to the Methuen treaty, declines. Coating has turned out camblet, and the manufacturers ſhould take to coating.

It

It is ſaid Ireland affords ſhags and ſome ſort of bays cheaper than England; that in all cloths of wool under 5s. and above 10s. the Engliſh excel the world at the Portugal market; but that between 5s. and 10s. Ireland might have an advantage; yet the ground on which the latter is founded does not appear. Theſe cloths are 50 inches, or yard and half wide.

The cuſtoms in Portugal conſiſt of

A rogoe duty, which is value.			20 per cent. on the
Donative	-	-	4
Concilado	-	-	3
			27 per cent.

And there is a clauſe in the laſt ordinance of rates which directs the officer to attend to the current prices, and if they vary from the rates, to increaſe the duty accordingly. Fees and port charges amount to about three per cent. more, making, in the whole, 30 per cent.

The efforts of the Portugueſe to diſcourage the import of woollens from Great Britain and Ireland*, are not juſtifiable; the produce of wool in Portugal is by no means equal to the conſumption. The export is prohibited, yet near 400,000lb. are ſent to Holland, under the name of Spaniſh wool re-exported. The average produce of their ſheep is 2½lb. per fleece, and the whole produce is eſtimated at 1,700,000lb. Several manufactures have been ſet up in different parts of the country, and to encourage them, every difficulty is oppoſed to the entry of foreign manufactures; this only encourages ſmuggling, and conſequently an evaſion of duties. Contraband trade flouriſhes very extenſively, and it requires the vigour and reſolution of a Pombal to prevent it in that country. Moſt of the manufactures are carried on at the expence of the crown, of courſe they can rarely ſucceed. The fineſt Engliſh cloth ſells there at 27s. per yard. The only import of eſſential conſequence into Ireland from Portugal, is ſalt; all her other

* A New Book of Rates was formed in Portugal, February 1783, by which Britiſh and Iriſh goods are rated much higher than formerly.

imports from thence ſhe might have as well from Spain and France.

The conduct of the Courts of London and Liſbon, on the ſubject of refuſing to admit Iriſh woollens into Portugal as Britiſh, is unworthy of them, and avails little. It is ſaid, that Portugal at the time of making the Methuen treaty, objected to Iriſh woollens being deemed Britiſh: but it is advantageous to Portugal to admit Iriſh as long as ſhe admits Britiſh; competition would lower the price to her. It has been underſtood, that the difficulty is on the part of Britain. It is vain, however, becauſe it appears, that above three fifths of the exports of new drapery from Ireland, are to Portugal: of old drapery, 2660 yards; to the Madeiras, of the latter, 5174 yards.

It therefore not only is unneceſſary, but it would perhaps prove a raſh meaſure, to lay prohibitory duties on Portugal wine.

TRADE WITH SPAIN.

It was intended to give the detail of the trade of Ireland with each country, but it would ſwell the work too much, and in many inſtances it would be only matter of curioſity, for the reaſon already given; that we cannot form a juſt idea of what may be, from what has been, the trade of Ireland.

This obſervation, however, does not apply to Spain ſo much as to ſome other countries; but as war with that kingdom had only ceaſed a ſmall part of the year ending 25th March, 1783, the trade with it conſequently could not be very conſiderable. The exports to Spain that year were in value only 2210l. and 886 cwt. of hake amounted to 1329l. of that ſum. The quantity of linen ſent there was only 2500 yds., butter 93 cwt. and pork 200 barrels. But the imports from Spain were much more conſiderable, amounting to 83,412l. The pot aſhes imported were in value nearly that ſum, viz. 64,973cwt. 77,967l. The only other articles

ticles of any amount imported were 1046 cwt. of raiſins, and 70 tons of wine, 24 tons of which were Portugal wines.

Previous to 1783, the Iriſh cuſtom-houſe accounts do not ſeparate the trade with Spain from that to Portugal; they appear under one head.

Whatever the trade with Spain may have been, it might become very conſiderable and advantageous to both countries — She cannot raiſe to advantage many of the ſtaple aricles of Ireland; ſhe might take nearly the ſame articles that Portugal takes, but in much greater abundance. It is computed that Spain ſends to her colonies, linens to the amount of 1,300,000l.: that ſhe conſumes to the amount of 1,000,000l. ſterling: and the Canaries, Portugal, the Brazils, Madeira, Weſtern Iſlands, and coaſt of Africa, take to the value of 500,000l. excluſive of freight, inſurance, commiſſion, and profit; and all this taken from France, Flanders, and Germany. The calculation was made 25 years ago, and was probably much underrated at the time.

But

But in 1773, the year of the greateſt tranquillity for trade, and ſeemingly as advantageous to be ſelected as any, the quantity of linens that went to Spain and Portugal from both Great Britain and Ireland was as follows.

	Yards.
Britiſh linens from London and out ports, - - -	4,900
Iriſh linens from London and out ports, - - -	29,371

Theſe were from 6d. to 18d. per yard, and entitled to bounty.

	Yards.
The quantity exported the ſame year to Spain and Portugal from Ireland, was - - -	30,511
The preceding year, viz. 1772 -	16,066

But in the year ending 25th March, 1780, the quantity of linen exported to thoſe countries from Ireland, was increaſed to 157,396 yards, plain and coloured.

TRADE

TRADE WITH FRANCE.

The principal import from France is wine, and the principal export to that country from Ireland is beef; but the year immediately ſucceeding the peace is not the beſt for noticing the exports or imports, or for judging of the trade to that country.

Within ten years, and previous to the war, the exports to France had in ſeveral inſtances declined. Theſe were the principal exports:

	1765	1766	1775	1776
Beef, Barrels -	86047	67023	70968	69377
Biſcuit, Cwt. - -	243	183	131	128
Butter, Cwt. -	26413	19765	25570	16940
Candles, Cwt. - -	2341	1398	285	476
Hides, untaned. N°.	12166	10211	4182	3660
Pork, Barrels - -	1142	1087	2544	1235
Tallow, Cwt. - -	2277	582	3394	3197

And the following are the principal imports into Ireland from France, the others are of no great value.

Imports	1765	1766	1775	7776
Capers, lbs. - -	10896	4605	3358	2584
Cork, Cwt. - -	1260	1501	1348	1408

Imports

Imports	1765	1766	1775	1776
Gloves, Pairs - -	5747	5030	12726	4176
Cambrick, Yards -	64852	45922	—	—
Printing Paper Reams	25694	16557	8684	10987
Writing Paper Reams	1199	1777	128	40
Salt, Buſhels - - -	9156	3529	1930	3886
Brandy, Gallons -	739864	637028	335449	386194
Wine Tons, - - -	4941	4502	2999	2689
Oil, Gallons - -	795	3716	1239	293

The imports from France declined ſtill more than the exports to that country; in general we may ſuppoſe one affected the other.

THE TRADE WITH HOLLAND AND FLANDERS

Is not ſeparated in the Iriſh cuſtom-houſe accounts. The principal exports to thoſe countries had decreaſed previous to the war: and had been irregular.

	1765	1766	1775	1776
Beef, barrels - -	10362	7100	6257	8830
Biſcuit, cwt. - -	207	117	32	83
Butter, cwt. - -	52251	28955	10375	15330

Candles

	1765	1766	1775	1776
Candles, cwt. - - -	765	526	668	578
Hides, No. - -	12040	14142	2062	1381
Hogs' Lard, cwt. -	1681	360	287	665
Linen, yards, -	6,432	1506	4776	3180
Pork, barrels,	1,121	1431	213	726
Tallow, cwt. -	10513	1333	2032	816

The imports into Ireland from Holland and Flanders are very numerous, including a conſiderable quantity of groceries, drugs, and dying ſtuffs, and the following principal articles.

	1765	1766	1775	1776
Barley and Malt, quarters,	280	20	0	2
Wheat, ditto, - -	120	1768	115	4
Undreſſed Flax, cwt.	3691	1939	182	617
Thread and Outnal, lb.	6270	5523	2873	8552
Thread, Siſters, lb.	2137	1948	2573	1581
Iron, cwt. - -	5824	1776	2691	1355
Cambrick, yards,	1033	45	0	0
Hamb. Linen, ells,	1605	7	19	6
Linſeed, hogſh.	6587	1777	1043	5256
Ditto Oil, gallons,	31324	16950	42947	42822
Printing Paper, Reams,	5962	2253	1351	1371
Writing do. do. -	7783	5806	5087	4803
Garden ſeeds, lbs.	6833	7452	10375	8047
Snuff, lbs. - -	5435	9388	4005	2397

	1765	1766	1775	1776
Geneva, galls.	152816	83908	119804	153430
Iron Wire, cwt. -	1520	913	1240	1073
Steel, cwt. - -	1189	1118	1295	1123
Starch, cwt. - -	87	91	271	442

No judgement can be formed from the exports or imports, to and from theſe countries, during war. In the year ending 25th March, 1783, we find the export to them increaſed; Beef, barrels, 21,876; Butter, 17,911 cwt.; New Drapery, 28,633 yards; Old Drapery, 2,940 yards; Flannel, 3248 yards; Frize, 700 yards; Hides, 2,972, No.; Linen cloth, 44953 yards; Ditto, coloured, 8489 yards; Pork, 4,495 barrels; Woollen yarn, 440 ſtones.

As to the imports the ſame year, many had decreaſed, a few had increaſed.

THE TRADE WITH THE EAST COUNTRY.

This includes Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Ruſſia, the Baltick, and the country north of Holland, and the trade to theſe countries is not

not ſeparated in the Iriſh cuſtom-houſe accounts till 1783.

	1765	1766	1775	1776
Beef, Barrels —	1700	1419	136	8830
Biſcuit, Cwt. —	248	219	69	83
Beer, Barrels —	495	394	58	2
Butter, Cwt. —	98535	64638	10877	15330
Cheeſe, Cwt. —	626	277	11	17
Malt, Qrs. - —	406	785	150	0
Hides, N°. —	2699	4598	612	0
Linen, Yards —	16617	16127	8542	9013
Oatmeal, Barrels	3995	788	10	313
Pork, Ditto —	324	115	25	32
Salt, Buſhels —	2004	2332	0	0
Calves Skins, Doz.	1684	600	17	35
Sope, Cwt, —	234	119	21	13
Tallow, Cwt. —	34	278	9	0

Imports into Ireland from the Eaſt Country.

	1765	1766	1775	1776
Bark, Barrels —	254	0	1581	1550
Cables, Cwt. —	122	93	0	0
Wheat, Qrs. —	1328	1040	26	500
Herrings, Barrels	17030	24555	23597	24339
Flax, undr. Cwt.	3048	1952	6207	2966
Gun Powd. Cwt.	409	11	22	25
Hemp, undr. Cwt.	17345	8660	11415	9146
Iron, Cwt.	71888	92324	135343	109206
Linſeed Oil, Gals.	252	239	46	0
Train Oil, Gals.	9163	11764	18402	10206
Pot Aſhes, Cwt.	20864	20936	19962	23991

	1765	1766	1775	1776
Tar, Barrels —	2404	1580	1374	1013
Barrel Stvs. Hhds.	1060	979	220	1471
Deals, Hds. —	10686	9892	11441	9035
Maſts No. —	68	119	17	6
Plank, value —	1395	724	377	243
Timber, N°. —	9770	10347	9029	7912

In general it appears that as the imports from France, Flanders, Holland, and the Eaſt Country decreaſed, the exports to thoſe countries alſo decreaſed; yet the general export of thoſe articles which uſed to go to thoſe countries did not altogether very materially decline. It is obſervable, however, that the impolitic export of hides had greatly decreaſed.

Before the ſubject of the trade of Ireland with Europe is finiſhed, it may be proper to obſerve, that all European goods * (non enumerated) may be brought from any place in any ſhipping; and the enumerated alſo from

* The 12th Charles II. chap. 18, which requires goods to be brought directly from the *aforeſaid* places of their growth, refers only to Aſia, Africa, aud America. The reſtraint on European goods is contained in the 8th ſect. of that act, directing articles, commonly called enumerated,

from any place in Britiſh ſhips *, or of the country. Under this conſtruction of the law, it has been the conſtant practice to allow all European goods to be brought here from Ireland in Britiſh ſhips, upon the ſame terms as if imported direct; except,

Firſt, ſuch as are probibited to be uſed in this kingdom, reſpecting which it is obvious if the various articles of gloves, ſtockings, laces, embroideries, ſilks manufactured, buttons, cambricks, fringes, wires, velvets, mixed ſtuffs, &c. &c. comprized in our long liſt of prohibitions, are to be importable from Ireland, but interdicted to other nations, the frauds to which our market would be open by the introduction of foreign goods, through Ireland, would be inſurmountable and infinite. The general expediency of our prohibitions, whether conſidered with a view to commerce or revenue, is a diſtinct

merated, to be brought only in Britiſh ſhips, or in thoſe of the built of the country. See alſo 13 and 14 Charles II. chap. 11. And 6th George I. chap. 15.

* It ſhould be always remembered that Iriſh and Plantation-built ſhips are deemed Britiſh.

con-

conſideration, and makes no part of the preſent inquiry.

Secondly, Thrown ſilk of Italy, Sicily, and Naples, which can only be brought directly from thoſe places reſpectively by ſea, in ſhips legally navigated.

Thirdly, Drugs (not Iriſh produce) which pay treble duties if brought from thence.

Fourthly, Wine, which if brought from Ireland, is not entitled to the 12 per cent. for leakage.

Fiftly, Silk crapes or tiffanies pay an higher duty, unleſs imported directly from Italy.

	£.	s. d.
Total Iriſh produce exported to foreign countries, on an average of nine years, ending March 25, 1782, —	345,118	10 9
Ditto, exported to ditto, in the year ending March 25, 1783, —	584,222	19 3
Total imports from foreign countries, on an average of nine years, ending March 25, 1782, — —	605,117	4 0
Ditto, from ditto, in the year ending March 25, 1783, —	679,289	8 7

It is impoſſible to get a ſatisfactory account of the quantity of ſhipping belonging to

to Ireland. The number of ſhips built there compared with her trade, is trifling. Mr. Dobbs, who, as already mentioned, publiſhed an Eſſay on the trade of Ireland in 1729, mentions the tonnage employed, on an average of ſeven years ending 1724, to be 181,901. In one of thoſe years it was much higher, viz. in 1722, it amounted to 286,594 tons, belonging to the following nations:

Engliſh - - - - -	218,299	tons.
Scotch - - - - - -	18,355	
Iriſh - - - - - - -	33,312	
Daniſh - - - - - -	11,201	
Dutch - - - - - - -	2,444	
French - - - - - -	2,868	
Spaniſh - - - - - - -	115	
	286,594	

At preſent the Portugueſe have a ſhare of the carrying trade of Ireland.

REVENUE.

The table No. X. gives an abſtract of the revenue of Ireland, with the expence of management, drawbacks, premiums, &c. for the year ending 25th March, 1784.

The

	£.	s.	d.
The groſs amount of the hereditary revenue for that year appears to be -	659,826	4	8
Expence of management, drawbacks, &c. - -	261,912	16	11
Remains neat - -	397,913	7	9
On an average of ten years, ending 25th March, 1771, the groſs amount was	638,132	6	9

But as the expence of management, drawbacks, premiums, &c. have increaſed, the neat produce is leſs than it was*.

	£.		d.
The groſs amount of the additional duties for the year ending 25th March, 1784, appears to be - -	382,352	11	11
Deducting drawbacks†, &c.	16160	0	8
Remains neat - -	366,192	11	3

* In the non-importation year, viz. the year ending 25th March, 1780, the groſs amount of the hereditary revenue fell to 561,121l. 18s. 7d.

† The expence of management of the additional duties is charged on the hereditray revenue.

The

	£.	s.	d.
The groſs amount, on an average of ten years, ending 25th March, 1771,	227,882	16	6
Neat produce of the hereditary revenue and additional duties, on an average of ten years, ending 25th March, 1771, - -	711,127	8	7
The expence, management, drawbacks, premiums, &c., on an average of ten years, ending the 25th March, 1771, - -	154,887	14	9
Expence of ditto, for the year ending 25th March, 1784, excluſive of 8,263l. 10s. 6½d. which properly belongs to ſtamp duties*,	277,072	17	7½

* The increaſe is little more than may fairly be explained.

NATIONAL ACCOUNT.

General ſtate of the national account of Ireland, for the year ending 25th March, 1784.

	£.	s.	d.
Charge of the civil liſt,	174,918	4	7¾
Charge of the military eſtabliſhment, ordnance, &c. - - - - -	429,686	12	10
Charges purſuant to act of Parliament, and King's letters, exceedings on concordatum, military contingencies and barracks, prize bounties to the linen manufacture, and allowances to the Commiſſioners of the Public Accounts, -	493,579	4	2
Making together, -	1,098,184	1	7¾

Towards

	£.	s.	d.
Towards anſwering which, muſt be applied the neat produce of the hereditary revenue for the year ending 25th March, 1784, deducting management, &c. - -	397,913	7	9¾
Neat produce of the additional duties for the ſame year deducting for drawbacks, - - -	366,192	11	3
Neat produce of the ſtamp duties deducting management, &c. - -	26,316	10	7¾
Poundage and Pells fees,	24,138	8	6
Four ſhillings in the pound on employments of abſentees, - -	16,545	5	5¼
Surplus of the loan fund after paying intereſt,			
Sundry balances paid to Vice Treaſurer, - -			
Charge of the civil, liſt on an average of ten years, ending 25th of March, 1771, - - - -	126,334	7	5¼

	£.	s.	d.
Charge of the military eſtabliſhment on the ſame average, - -	501,563	0	3
Extraordinary charges, including Parliamentary grants on the ſame average, - -	164,762	17	10
Total expence on the ſame average, - -	792,660	5	5
Total expence on the preceding ten years, viz. ending 25th March, 1761 - - -	626,755	3	8

DEBT AND LOAN DUTIES.

State of the Funded Debt, 25th Mach, 1784.

	£.	s.	d.
Principal of loan debentures	927,600	0	0
——— Treaſury bills	604,025	0	0
——— Bank capital	600,000	0	0
	2,131,625	0	0

Intereſt

	£.	s.	d.
Intereſt on the loan debentures, at 4 per cent. -	43,104	0	0
Intereſt on the Treaſury bills, at 4l. 11s. 3d. per cent. -	23,930	0	0
Life annuities - -	49,843	5	0
Bank annuity - -	18,000	0	0
	134,877	5	0

LOAN DUTIES.

	£.	s.	d.
Spirits, ſingle - -	56,757	12	0
Brandy and geneva, 2d.	32,793	19	8
Rum, 2d. - -	19,276	4	7
Spirits exceeding ſingle proof	14,796	1	9
Spirits, home made -	59,854	5	5¼
Cards, 2d. - -	2,506	4	0
	185,984	7	5¼
Deduct drawbacks	765	15	9½
Neat	185,218	11	7¾
Total unfunded debt, 25th March, 1784 -	47,583	16	4

As

As long as the debt ſhall not exceed its preſent amount, the taxes which it occaſions will not be materially felt. The fund which it forms, affords to the people a convenient and ſafe opportunity of inveſting their money. During the latter part of the war, the Iriſh funds were above par.

OBSER-

OBSERVATIONS.

THE moſt ſucceſsful of our political writers are thoſe who aſſert roundly that the public intereſts are irretrievably ſunk into diſtreſs and miſery. There is the greateſt diſpoſition in the people to be convinced that ſuch doctrines are juſt; and they greedily adopt maxims which ſeem rather formed to prepare us for another world, than to reconcile us to that, in which we are placed. On the other hand, it is an ungrateful, and, in general, an unſucceſsful taſk, to endeavour to undeceive the people of Britain, or of Ireland, to ſatisfy them that their affairs are in a good way, and that, collectively conſidered, they have ample cauſe for contentment, and ample means of happineſs. An author, however, who has no pretenſions to popularity, who never aimed at it, and never will, might, on the ſtrength of the facts ſtated in the foregoing pages, and, proved by authentic documents, venture to aſſert, that the manufactures, the trade, the finances, and every

every thing appertaining to Ireland, except the minds of her people, are in a good way. He might, perhaps, go ſtill farther, and affirm, that no other country ever poſſeſſed ſo many advantages, and was ſo happily circumſtanced. He muſt not, indeed, dare to pronounce the people happy, until they may think proper to be ſo; but thus much he will contend for, that Ireland poſſeſſes the *great* and *uſeful* advantages of the greateſt countries; and that ſhe is gradually advancing to the attainment of every advantage acquired and maintained by Britain. Her ſoil is excellent, her climate favourable to agriculture and manufactures; her people capable of whatever they pleaſe to undertake; her ſituation the beſt for trade; her ports numerous and good. The principal unreaſonable reſtrictions on her manufactures and trade have all, in great meaſure, been removed. She has obtained, in a ſhort time, much more than ſhe uſed to claim, much more than her moſt ſanguine friends expected. The kingdom in general is in the moſt proſperous ſtate, and has, perhaps, been progreſſively more ſo than any country in Europe during the greater part

of

of a century. But ſuch is our miſerable nature, that diſcontent, deluſion, and extravagancies ſeemed to gain ground; they have ſpread over the land, under circumſtances which ought to have produced the moſt oppoſite effects; and no longer ago than laſt ſummer, if we may give any credit to public prints, Ireland appeared to have neither conſtitution nor government, nor common ſenſe. Aggregate or other meetings had announced that a total change was neceſſary, that the Parliaments were bad, that they were dependent, and this ſhortly after Parliament had aſſerted the independence of the legiſlature, and had gained more popular advantages for the country than all the Parliaments of Ireland ever had done.

The people were clamorouſly declared to be enſlaved, at the very time when they were manifeſtly ſuperior to all control, either of reaſon or of law. Meetings were held for unlawful purpoſes, the public papers were filled with treaſon againſt the conſtitution and the eſtabliſhed government. The wild and baneful idea of ſeparation from Great Britain was

diſcuſſed in idle ſpeeches, without exciting either aſtoniſhment or indignation. Various means were adopted to enflame, and all arts employed to perſuade that the manufactures were declining, notwithſtanding the moſt glaring proofs to the contrary.

It is ſometimes difficult to account for popular diſcontents; but, in the inſtance here deſcribed, it is evident that they had no foundation, and that they were fomented by men, who knew they had no chance of notice but in times of anarchy and diſorder, and who, in hope of plundering the wreck, enjoy the ſtorm. It is, however, ſome ſatisfaction to reflect, that (whatever others may do) the beginners of miſchief ſeldom reap any advantage from it. Ireland had obtained every thing ſhe deſired; a moſt diſtreſſing circumſtance to her incendiaries. Pains were taken to point out that manufactures and trade were in a ruinous ſtate, and all methods but the right were recommended for aſſiſting them: great pains were taken to make a breach with England; and for want of other food for diſcontent and innovation, they ſtumbled, as it happened, on parliamentary reform.

The

The times immediately ſubſequent to thoſe in which Parliament had aſſerted even more than the people had endeavoured to obtain, had carried all their points, and had proved themſelves eminently independent, do not, to an ordinary underſtanding, appear exactly to have been the ſeaſon peculiarly eligible for deſtroying the conſtitution of the Houſe of Commons, or the mode of forming it.

The arguments for and againſt a reform of Parliament are freſh in every man's memory, and it is needleſs to repeat them; but it may be obſerved, that even if it ſhould be admitted as neceſſary in England, it by no means will follow, that it is neceſſary in Ireland. The repreſentatives of Ireland are choſen by a much greater proportion of the people who can be qualified to vote, than in England. The change of property in that country, its divided intereſts, the property and eſtabliſhed government being comparatively in the hands of the few, ſurely are objections to throwing the power into the hands of the multitude. It ſeems reaſonable to ſuppoſe, that while the election is in the hands of men of property and conſideration, the elected will fulfil the

purpoſe of legiſlation better than thoſe ſent by the multitude, which has neither property nor judgement. How ſuch a change is to produce a ſet of members leſs corrupt, does not appear: no qualification as to property is neceſſary for a ſeat in the Iriſh Parliament; boroughs might ſend buſtling attornies and their clerks, or unſucceſsful ſhopkeepers; they would take care to have compenſation for trouble and expence; counties, indeed, might ſend landed men of jovial character*.

It

* One little difficulty would occur from the intended improvement of the conſtitution; the Lord Lieutenant's Secretary, who is the Miniſter of the country, might, on his arrival, find it difficult or impoſſible to get into Parliament, eſpecially as there are not the ſame means of vacating a ſeat in the Iriſh as in the Engliſh Houſe of Commons; but the difficulty might lead to the putting that office on a more reaſonable footing: it might be made permanent, if a proper perſon could be found conſtantly to remain there. The ſalary is ſurely ſufficient, viz. 4,500l. per ann. excluſive of all the fees of the civil and military offices, and of houſes both in Dublin and in the country; it is more than belongs to any one office in Great Britain. If it wants dignity, the office of Secretary of State, which moſt abſurdly is at preſent a ſinecure, in Ireland, of about 1500l. per annum, might be joined to

It has alſo been ſuggeſted, that frequent elections might be ſalutary. Without attending

to it, and the diſpoſition which has been ſhewn, no longer to make judicial offices, ſinecures, perhaps, might aſſiſt the meaſure. A permanent ſecretary would give an influence and conſiſtence to the commencement of every new viceroyalty, which rarely has been ſeen in the annals of Iriſh government. The neceſſity of making ſudden arrangements with men before they are known, would be prevented. There is no neceſſity for the Secretary to conſider himſelf as obliged to go out of office on every change of Miniſters in England. Had this plan been embraced a few years ago, probably ſuch an arrangement might have taken place as would have made new claims or difficulties impoſſible, and the countries might now have been on the beſt terms, without a poſſibility of a diſagreement on the preſent ground. It would keep up ſomething of a permanent adminiſtration in Ireland. The uſual expence of a proviſion for the Secretary at the end of the Lord Lieutenant's reign, would be ſaved by this management, and alſo 1500l. per ann. on the death of the preſent Secretary of State. According to the preſent ſyſtem, the Secretary goes to Ireland, knowing about as much of the country and people as the Lord Lieutenant; is immediately beſet by the conſiderable men of the country, of various characters, objects, and plans, and is obliged to decide before it is poſſible for him to know the grounds of his deciſions. If this reſident Secretary ſhould aſſume too much, the Viceroy would naturally quarrel with

tending to an uncandid and vulgar prejudice, that the Iriſh nation is naturally turbulent and diſpoſed to diſorder; it may be aſked, whether triennial or annual elections might not be inconvenient to a manufacturing and commercial ſtate; the advantage of repeated appeals to the ſenſe of the multitude is not obvious to every underſtanding.

However reſpectable the ſenſe of the people may be, yet we cannot be blind to their inconſiſtencies and deluſions. It ſeems the ſenſe of one country that the moſt eligible government is that of a mob. It is the ſenſe of another that St. Januarius's blood ought to become liquid on a particular day; of another, that a great orator is inſtinctively a

with him, and cauſe his diſmiſſion. Something of this kind of eſtabliſhment ſeems particularly proper, as it is not the cuſtom of England to know much of the internal circumſtances of Ireland, nor uſual for Miniſters to know much more than the people. We are curious and inquiſitive relative to the iſland of Otaheite; are well informed of its manners, cuſtoms, politics, parties, manufactures, ſhipping, &c. and accurately acquainted with the diſpoſitions of Queen Oberea: but we overlook the neighbouring iſland and the characters of its people.

com-

complete ſtateſman *. It *was* the ſenſe of the nation laſt alluded to, to preſs a bill of excluſion againſt a prince; ſhortly after to load him with the moſt fulſome and ſhameful addreſſes, and three years after to dethrone him. It was the ſenſe of another nation, deſcended from Engliſhmen, almoſt univerſally to believe in witchcraft, and while that was their ſenſe, to put to death multitudes of the people on that account; neither character, nor fortune, neither ſex, nor the miniſtry of the goſpel, neither the innocence of youth, nor the infirmities of age, afforded the leaſt protection. The excellent governor was *addreſſed* and *thanked* for the many executions that had been made, and exhorted to proceed in the laudable work. Happily in due time the judges themſelves were accuſed of ſorcery; and at length the people, recovering from their infatuation, appointed a faſt, prayed to God, and imputed the ſenſe that had appeared, to Satan and his inſtruments: and this happened at a

* In this country no other proof is required of fitneſs for every office, than oratory; that talent ſupplies the place of all knowledge, experience and judgement.

period

period of time the moſt reaſoning and enlightened in the hiſtory of man, viz. 1692.*

Millions of examples equally edifying could be produced; which however might not tend to reconcile a politician to the ſcheme of recurring to the ſenſe † of the multitude on every occaſion; more eſpecially as this recurrence may happen reſpecting points on which it is impoſſible for them to form a true judgement, on which they are likely to be enflamed, and to become the inſtruments of malice or ambition.

It is now neceſſary to go back to the year 1778, to take notice of a phenomenon which began to appear about that time. The like never has been obſerved in any country, at leaſt where there was an eſtabliſhed government. To deſcribe it ſtrictly, it may be

* See Hutchinſon's hiſtory of Maſſachuſets: alſo the hiſtory of the European ſettlements in America.

† *A celebrated modern courtier* being told that the ſenſe of the people ſhould be taken on a particular occaſion, anſwered, "you may take the ſenſe, and I will take "the nonſenſe of the people, and beat you twenty to "one."

called

called an army unauthorized by the laws*, and uncontrolled by the government of the country, but it was generally known, by the name of Volunteers of Ireland. Their inſtitution bore ſome ſemblance of a connection with the executive power. Arms belonging to the ſtate, and ſtored under the care of the lieutenants of counties, were delivered to them, upon the alarm of foreign invaſion. So far they ſeemed to be countenanced by government; but in a ſhort time they cauſed no little jealouſy and uneaſineſs. The arms iſſued from the public ſtores were inſufficient to ſupply the rapid increaſe of the volunteers: the reſt were procured by themſelves, and the neceſſary accoutrements, with a conſiderable number of field pieces. It anſwered the purpoſe of oppoſition in both countries to ſpeak highly of them, and the ſupporters of government in both countries mentioned them with civility. The wonderful efforts of England in America were ſomehow waſted to no purpoſe of deciſion. American ſucceſs enflamed grievances which had been

* The ſame ſort of thing as ſome county and other meetings endeavoured to introduce in England a very few years ago.

long felt in Ireland. Ireland, in truth, had infinitely more cauſe for complaint, and had been infinitely more oppreſſed, than America; the latter had never ſubmitted to half the hurtful reſtrictons in which the other had for many years quietly acquieſced: but now petitions, remonſtrances, popular reſolves, and parliamentary addreſſes were vigorouſly urged, and in about four years Ireland was happily relieved from many commercial reſtraints, which ſhould have been removed long before, and gained ſeveral other points which ſhe thought eſſential to her welfare. The volunteers preſerving a degree of reſerve and decency, kept at a certain diſtance, but were never entirely out of ſight. They had been ſerviceable in ſupporting the civil magiſtrate; Fewer caſtles, houſes, or lands, were kept by forcible poſſeſſion; ſheriffs were enabled to do their duty; fewer rapes and other enormities were committed than uſual; and here if the volunteers had ſtopt, and we had ſeen no more of them after the eſtabliſhment of peace, their page in hiſtory would have been fair and reſpectable: but it was natural for them to go on. The many-headed monſter now began to think it would be proper to reform the

ſtate,

ſtate, and to purge the Parliament of Ireland. The ſeveral corps ſent delegates; ſometimes they appeared to be the delegates of counties. They formed a parliament of their own; they reſolved what they pleaſed, and of courſe, that the other parliament was a bad one. So far every thing went on as might be expected; but there is another part of their conduct, which is neither natural nor rational: ſome of the corps, perhaps for the ſake of compleating their numbers, and poſſibly without conſideration, admitted Roman Catholics; others perhaps enrolled them latterly for the ſake of acquiring numbers and ſtrength, to force a reform: but that Proteſtants ſhould allow and encourage this, and alſo the forming of whole corps of Roman Catholics, when all Europe was at peace, is ſcarce to be believed, conſidering the pretenſions of the latter, and above all, their numbers. It became the ſyſtem of the Roman Catholics to enrol as many as poſſible, and particularly ſince the peace, laſt ſpring, laſt ſummer, and now it is going on, though not quite ſo rapidly as was expected. There is nothing equivocal in this. They were already half of thoſe that latterly appeared under arms; in a year, or leſs, they

might be ten to one, for the Proteſtants were gradually quitting the ſervice, and the only apology for thoſe who coutinued ſince the peace, was, that they meant to prevent the volunteer arms from falling into more dangerous hands, and to counterbalance the Roman Catholics. The latter appeared ſure of their plan, and ſeemed already to exult.

The conduct of the Roman Catholics for a length of time, except thoſe concerned in this buſineſs, had been ſo reſpectable, that it may ſeem harſh to mention any thing adverſe to them: but, the objection is to their numbers. If they were only one fifth, inſtead of four fifths, of the people, the writer of theſe obſervations would be the laſt man to ſuggeſt difficulties againſt their being admitted to power, and every right and advantage. But they are men; they do not forget the ſituation in which their anceſtors have been; they are not blind to what they might acquire. A perſeverance for upwards of two centuries, under every diſcouragement, and every incitement to a change, under every ſeverity, and ſubjected to every diſadvantage, does not prove an indifference to the prin-

ciples of their religion. Thinking as they do, feeling as they do, and believing as they do, they would not be men if they did not wiſh a change; nor would the Proteſtants be worthy the deſcription of reaſonable creatures, if they did not take precautions to prevent it.

Leſt any thing ſhould be deficient to make volunteering objectionable, Roman Catholics were admitted to bear arms; and leſt any thing ſhould be wanting to make the plan for improving the repreſentation extravagant and abſurd, it was propoſed that they ſhould be admitted to vote at elections: a propoſal, indeed, ſo ſtrange, that it might well be imagined to originate with the enemies of reform, for the purpoſe of blaſting the attempt. The right of being elected, would ſurely follow their being eligible; but at all events the power would be in the electors. It is curious to obſerve one fifth, or perhaps one ſixth, of a nation in poſſeſſion of the power and property of the country, eager to communicate that power to the remaining four fifths, which would, in effect, entirely transfer it from themſelves. It did not proceed from libe-

liberality, but from folly. To what elſe can be imputed the transferring it to ſo great a majority who have claims, eſpecially at this time, when a peculiar policy has eſtabliſhed the ſyſtem of reſtoring forfeited eſtates*? The attainders and forfeitures that followed the tranſactions of 1641, 1688, 1715, and 1745, depend on the ſame principles. If power is communicated, it of courſe will be made uſe of; it is ridiculous, it is contrary to reaſon and nature, to ſuppoſe otherwiſe. It is not in man to be content; thoſe that have acquired the means of increaſing their gains, or who think they have got nothing, if they do not get more, will not be inattentive to advantages. It is not ſufficient to ſay the property of the Roman Catholics is trifling †, compared with that of the Proteſtants,

* The author deſires to be underſtood not to object to the meaſure, but to the mode.

† Although there are ſeveral Roman Catholic families of large eſtates, the number that exceed 1000l. per ann. is ſmall. It has been ſuppoſed, however, that they are the monied men; but if we may judge from the late ſubſcription to the Bank ſtock of Ireland, it does not appear ſo. Of 600,000l. only 60,000l. it is ſaid, were

teſtants, while the diſproportion in point of number is ſo great; and numbers, where they think they have claims, would ſoon have property, if attainable either by fair exertions or by force. Neither this obſervation, nor that the Roman Catholics were arming, is invidiouſly intended. It is natural they ſhould endeavour to avail themſelves of every advantage that may fall in their way.

The Proteſtants, not the Roman Catholics, are the objects of cenſure—The Proteſtants, who, with heedleſs infatuation, have not only ſuffered, but promoted thoſe extraordinary and dangerous proceedings, who ſeemed to have loſt all recollection of paſt apprehenſions, and all ſenſe of future danger. If the opportunity offers, why ſhould not the ſame things be attempted by the Roman Catholics in 1788, which were done in 1688 and 1641? If any

were ſubſcribed by Roman Catholics. This is not mentioned exultingly; it is ſincerely wiſhed they had much more. Their money was well employed in trade and agriculture. It is obſerved, that ſince the power of purchaſing land has been allowed to Roman Catholics, few purchaſes have been made by them; but they have had ſcarce time to call in their money, if they had been diſpoſed to lay it out on land.

man

man doubts, let him look into the proceedings of the Iriſh Parliament at thoſe periods. It is unpleaſing to point out the ſimilitude between the tranſactions that preceded the laſt-mentioned period and thoſe that have happened lately. There is no intention of alluding to the maſſacre of 1641, nor to ſuggeſt a probability that ſuch barbarity can ever be renewed. Though much exaggerated by Proteſtant writers, the horrors of that event cannot be palliated, however they may have fallen ſhort of the example which had been ſet on the famous feaſt of St. Bartholomew, by the *moſt civilized people* of Europe.

Perhaps we ſhall be told, that the advantage of the many, not of the few, ſhould be conſidered; that the majority ſhould govern, &c. The author will not diſpute with thoſe ſentimental politicians: he thinks it ſufficient at preſent, to reaſon about things as they are, and will content himſelf with obſerving, that the argument or ſentiment equally goes to an Agrarian law, or any levelling principle whatever: it eſtabliſhes confuſion, in the place of order.

Theſe

Theſe remarks, and the dangerous circumſtances which ſuggeſted them, would have been rendered ſuperfluous, if Ireland had uſed the moment of returning peace to form her volunteer army into a national militia, and had re-eſtabliſhed the ſalutary principle, that it is unlawful and unconſtitutional for men to array without the authority of Parliament.

Allowing the volunteers all the merit they have deſervedly acquired for their readineſs to defend their country in war, and imputing whatever may be irregular to the confuſion that prevails in time of danger and alarm: their continuance in arms in time of profound peace, will deſtroy former merit. Their efforts will be imputed to other motives than thoſe that actuated the firſt volunteers: an intention to change the conſtitution by a military force, will be imputed to them. If a revolution takes place, it muſt end, unleſs England ſhould interfere, in favour of the Roman Catholics, who are at leaſt four to one; even an unſucceſsful attempt would

be replete with great and obvious miſchiefs.

At the ſame time that a cordial anxiety for the true and permanent intereſts of Ireland has extorted theſe ſtrictures on the ſyſtem of volunteering, it is a point of juſtice to acknowledge, that the volunteer officers were in general highly reſpectable, and diſtinguiſhed both by their public talents and private virtues; and there are ſtill among them, men of the firſt rank and conſequence in the country.

The good order which prevailed in theſe corps, is not leſs extraordinary than their riſe and progreſs; but it is to be imputed to the good diſpoſition of the generality of the members, not to the nature of their conſtitution. It ſeems miraculous, that no miſchief has yet happened. The *mildneſs* of government, and the good temper of the army, have done their part. None more likely, however, to be miſled, than men collected as they have been, conceiving a high opinion of their conſequence and ſtrength. They are liable to be perverted, and turned to the worſt purpoſes;

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in almoſt every inſtance of the kind it has proved ſo. Well-meaning men who may at one time be at their head, may, at other times, find themſelves without authority, and at length be obliged to give way to thoſe whoſe buſineſs it is to inflame and pervert. The young and active, and thoſe who are not in the habit of thinking, will be led from one deviation to another, till at laſt they are advanced too far to go back; and ſome, otherwiſe reſpectable men, who have ſomething to loſe and little to gain, will repent of their attempts, to aſſiſt themſelves at elections by volunteering, or through the medium of an affected good will towards reform. All that is hinted at, may not happen; yet moſt aſſuredly, ſome of the politicians of Ireland are playing with moſt dangerous two-edged weapons. Such meaſures do not become them: ſuch are the ladders on which the otherwiſe inſignificant and vicious members of ſociety, or men of deſperate ſituations, mount, and with contempt look down on the miſerable tools, through whoſe folly they were enabled to aſcend.

In the mean time it is known, that French money had found its way into Ireland, even as late as laſt ſummer, and that American emiſſaries have been employed, and that France will be ready to play her uſual game. Paſſing over other conſiderations, it may be obſerved, that the ſucceſs of her machinations would be ruinous in an extreme degree both to Proteſtant and Papiſt. Suppoſing France to ſucceed ſo far as to produce a rebellion or civil war; ſuch a country as Ireland could not long ſubſiſt the armies of Britain, of France, of Proteſtants, and Roman Catholics. In a ſtate of war, that country, ſo far from being able to ſupport even ten or twenty thouſand foreign troops, would not be able to maintain her own people. Agriculture would almoſt ceaſe, devaſtation would ſpeedily overſpread, and exhauſt a tract of land ſo inconſiderable. One party ſtrong, in the habit of predominating, and ſupported by a Britiſh army, would conſume one part of the iſland; and another party, by far the moſt numerous, ſupported by the armies of France and Spain, would conſume the reſt. In caſe theſe ſhould not be enough, Germans, without end, might be introduced:—

inſtead

inſtead of being boundleſs, like America, and inacceſſible only on one ſide, Ireland is of ſmall extent for two armies, and acceſſible on every ſide, and no part of the iſland far diſtant from the ſea. The war would not be of the generous ſort that is uſually carried on by Britain and France; it would be a civil war; it would become a religious war, of all, the moſt barbarous. Ulſter might be once more vacated, and the brave Scotiſh clans would again find a better ſoil, and again ſhew their martial talents on the plains of of Ireland. After that fine country had been the ſcene of war, perhaps not more than two campaigns, it would be left in a worſe ſituation than Cromwell left it, on his laſt viſit; for it is impoſſible, conſidering the ſtate of things, while England in any degree exiſts as a conſiderable country, that an iſland ſo inferior in number of inhabitants, in riches, and every thing that makes one country ſtronger than another, that Ireland, ſo near and liable to blockade and invaſion, could, for any time, continue in an independent ſtate ſeparate from England.

Yet

Yet ſuch is ſaid to be the view of ſome; ſmall it is indeed hoped, and believed, is the number of thoſe who cheriſh the idea of a ſeperation at the expence of rupture and hoſtility between the countries: a proſpect not more wild than wicked; wild, from the improbability of ſucceſs; wicked, becauſe what are the hopes for Ireland, if ſo improbable a caſe could happen as that ſhe, for a time, ſhould be ſeperate from England? it would entail miſery on millions. That poor country, which now might be the happieſt in the world, inſtead of being laid waſte once only, would be the conſtant theatre of war and wretchedneſs, on every quarrel between Britain and France. But in the other caſe, of being even once the ſeat of war, when ſhe has loſt the flower of her people, half her inhabitants, all her manufactures, commerce and riches, ſhe muſt at length fall into her natural ſituation, deprived indeed of many bleſſings ſhe now enjoys.

However unpleaſant, theſe are matters highly proper, as well as neceſſary, to be ſtated; and he who endeavours to unfold the fatal conſequences of meaſures, the outſide of which

which may appear fair, is the real friend to a country.

Let it be underſtood, however, that whatever the maſs of the people may do, the moſt conſiderable, in point of rank and fortune, and the beſt informed, do not purſue either the extravagancies of volunteering or the viſions of reform.

Indeed, many others, who at firſt acted differently, had begun to ſee the ſtate of the country in a proper light. After violent fancies, a little recollection ſometimes occurs. Men began to be alarmed, and to recover their ſenſes. Aggregate meetings received mortifying checks. The ſpirit and good ſenſe of the country were rouzed by the extraordinary proceedings of thoſe meetings. The arming of the Roman Catholics, although ſome corps continued to form, and are now forming, experienced certain checks. The government of the country ſhewed a degree of ſpirit. Treaſon was curbed, and, ſince laſt Auguſt, good order was returning, miſchief ſeemed to ſubſide, volunteering and reform to decline, and many of theſe obſervations might now have been un-

neceſſary, if very ſerious conſequences were not to be dreaded from that combination of Mr. Wyville and Mr. Pitt, which has been not long ſince announced to the public. It is no leſs than ſounding the trumpet of diſorder in Ireland*.

It is a little particular, that the method of carrying points for that country lately, was through the *effect* of volunteers. Reform and Volunteers, may again be the cry. Reform and Volunteers, may lead to any thing. The encouragement is complete. However pure the patriotiſm of thoſe two gentlemen may be, their plans, at this moment, are infinitely miſchievous, in reſpect to Ireland at leaſt. The authority communicated to Mr. Wyville, by

* It has been already remarked, that ſince laſt ſummer, aggregate meetings had been checked in Ireland; attempts to form a congreſs had been, in great meaſure, fruſtrated, and good order began to prevail; but ſince the miniſter's letter to Belfaſt, and the unfortunate communication above mentioned, even thoſe who had declined, and refuſed to ſend repreſentatives to an illegal meeting, aſſembled, and named delegates to the anti-parliament or congreſs. The buſineſs of reform in Ireland will now probably be ſuſpended till the miniſter's meaſure for the reform of the Engliſh Houſe of Commons is known.

Mr.

Mr. Pitt, inflames both countries againſt the ancient conſtitution. It was ill timed: the wiſdom and policy of it are not obvious.

The firſt of thoſe gentlemen, a preacher of the moſt peaceable and benign doctrines, is the great patron of reform, and was among the firſt to promote correſponding committees, and aſſociations or volunteering in England. The friends, however, of the country came forward, and alarmed the people, pointing out the miſchief that was threatened; nor was the taſk difficult. Aſſociations and Committees had produced ſuch recent effects in America, and even in Ireland, that the very terms were deſervedy become ſuſpicious.

The encouragement which volunteering and reform derive from the Miniſter having, from the firſt, connected himſelf with aſſociators and reformers, muſt neceſſarily be alarming to the real friends of Ireland, and encouraging to all the wantonneſs of ſpeculators and the wickedneſs of incendiaries, in both countries. What volunteering or aſſociations are, muſt be plain to every underſtanding; but whether the other thing is, in future, to be

called Reformation, Reſtoration, Revolution, or Rebellion, depends entirely on the good or bad ſucceſs of the ſyſtem. And let it be obſerved, that the beſt-intended reform is not apt to ſtop exactly where it meant to ſtop, or where it ſhould ſtop.

Not a man is to be met, who conſiders the *intended* propoſitions of Reform of the Engliſh Houſe of Commons otherwiſe than as a mockery: not a man is to be found, who believes there is a ſerious intention of concurring in any thing like the reform * that is meant by the friends of that meaſure among the people; and at the ſame time that

* However difficult it is to ſay what the preſent Parliament may do, to propoſe a ſpecific plan of reform that can pleaſe no ſet of men, ſeems as likely means of evading reform as any that can be offered. An eſſential reform is not now to be expected; for although the Miniſter owes his exiſtence, as ſuch, to a diſſolution, it would not ſuit him to make the experiment again; and ſurely the people of England are not quite ſo ſimple as to be impoſed upon by any little partial appearance of reform, or without a diſſolution taking place immediately after reform. The reform will be an acknowledgement that there has been ſomething wrong in the mode of electing,

that the people of England will be diſappointed; the paſſions of the people of Ireland will not be calmed, or their minds compoſed: and thus theſe countries are ever to be the ſport of deluſion and bad policy, and beguiled or diverted from their real intereſts.

It is not the intention of the writer of theſe obſervations, to avail himſelf of the bad conduct and blunders of Adminiſtration, or to exhibit a picture that would bear the ſtrongeſt colouring. He wiſhes, eſpecially on ſuch an occaſion as the preſent, to avoid every thing, that can poſſibly be imputed to party. He is intereſted for the welfare of the empire: Miniſters and parties are, at the beſt, but ſecondary conſiderations, and never would have induced him, in any ſhape, to become a writer. If an attention to matters, which, perhaps, have been generally neglected, or,

electing; which being corrected, if there remains any pretenſion to honeſty and fairneſs, of courſe the people ſhould have the opportunity of chuſing their repreſentatives on the improved plan, the former mode being thus reprobated. The people of England have been duped, but will they readily be made to think an addition to Parliament a reform?

perhaps, not generally underſtood, enables him to give information, and uſefully to repreſent the ſtate of any part of the empire; that wiſh alone could tempt him to encounter the prejudices of ſome, and to expoſe himſelf to the intereſted and malignant obſervation of others.

He may have prejudices, but they are in favour of order and eſtabliſhed government; and he had rather feel ſuch as tend to ſupport the conſtitution and tranquillity, conſequently the proſperity, of the empire, than thoſe which countenance innovation, and, in the end, diſtraction; eſpecially at the time that repoſe is ſo neceſſary both to Great Britain and Ireland, and that they neither require, nor can be benefited by, the kind of changes that are attempted.

It is the misfortune of nations, as well as of individuals, not to be content when they are well, but to fancy they may be better. They will ſubject themſelves to every difficulty, and riſque every thing that is dear to them in purſuit of ideal advantages; neither the

the conſtitution, nor the manufactures, nor the trade of the country, require the new ſyſtems that are afloat; but ſhould it ever be the object of a Miniſter to amuſe the people with miſchievous acquieſcences, or by ſacrificing the moſt ſerious concerns, there is danger indeed. We ſhould be on our guard, examine what we are about, and not decide until we underſtand.

In reſpect to the two countries, whenever it is poſſible, let them conſider themſelves as one; and far be from theſe times the narrow and falſe policy of Davenant*, who recommends the means of diverting the Iriſh from mannfactures, and hindering their population from increaſe; who ſuppoſes England able to ſupply all foreign demands, and, on this miſtaken notion, concludes, that for every pound of Iriſh woollens ſold, a pound of Engliſh muſt remain at home; and not content with this, he farther ſuppoſed the encou-

* Davenant had acceſs to public papers, and was a party and a favourite writer, as he went with the tide in popular queſtions; but he was miſerably defective in juſt principles of commerce.

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ragement of the linen manufacture in Ireland would prejudice the trade of England with Hamburgh. The prodigious increaſe of exports both to Ireland and Hamburgh, ſince that time, ſufficiently confute a writer, who does not ſeem to have known, that it was neceſſary Ireland ſhould be rich, or have money or ſuch produce as we might want, before ſhe could take great quantities of Britiſh manufactures.

It ſhould be as notorious, as it is true, that every encouragement given to the induſtry of Ireland, is the advantage of Britain, and that the proſperity of the one, is the proſperity of the other.

The manufactures and trade of Ireland are in a proſperous ſtate; let her not neglect them for vain ſpeculations; let both countries recollect and avail themſelves of their many and great advantages: let them not tamper with that which is good, leſt they deſtroy it. The hint given to the Italians by their countryman, may be worthy their attention. He was in a good ſtate of health; he tampered

pered with his conſtitution to make it better, and finding he had deſtroyed himſelf by his quackery, he ordered the following to be inſcribed on his tomb — "Stavo bene, ma "per ſtar meglio, ſto qui."—"I was well, I "would be better, and here I lie."

THE END.

To enable the reader to calculate the value of the articles mentioned in the courſe of the work, the cuſtom-houſe valuations of Ireland, on export and import, are here annexed.

Medium of the preſent Market Price on Export.				Denominations.				Medium of the preſent Mark. Price on Import.		
£.	s.	d.						£.	s.	d.
			Ale			The	Barrel	1	0	0
			Apparel				Value			
0	3	0	Aquavitæ				Gallon			
			Apples				Buſhel	0	3	0
			Arms				Value			
			Bacon	Engliſh Flitches			No.	0	13	4
				Foreign			C. q. lb.	2	0	0
1	10	0		Hams			C. q. lb.			
0	15	0		Flitches			No.			
			Bark				Barrel	0	7	0
			Battery				C. q. lb.	7	5	0
1	10	0	Beef	Barrels			No.			
4	0	0		Carcaſes			No.			
			Beads of Glaſs				lbs.	0	1	0
0	10	0	Beer				Barrel	1	0	0
			Books	Bound			Value			
2	10	0		Unbound			C. q. lb.	10	0	0
0	10	0	Boards, Barrels				C. q. No.			
0	5	0	Barrels empty				No.			
0	1	6	Bottles of Glaſs				Dozen	0	1	6
0	12	0	Bread				C. q. lb.			
			Berries Juniper				C. q. lb.	2	0	0
4	4	0	Braſs and Copper manufactured				Value			
			Braſs Shruff				C. q. lb.	3	0	0
			Bricks				Thouſan-	1	10	0
2	0	0	Butter				C. q. lb.			
5	0	0	Bullocks and Cows				No.			
			Brimſtone				C. q. lb.	0	16	8
			Bullion	Gold			Ounces			
				Silver			Ounces	0	6	8
			Bugles				lb.	0	6	8
			Cables				C. q. lb.	1	12	0
			Candlewick				C. q. lb.	3	5	0
			Capers				lb.	0	0	8
0	6	0	Cards	Playing			Doz. Pks.			
				Tow			Doz. Pks.	0	4	0
				Wool			Doz. Pks.	0	8	0
			Chalk				C. q. lb.	0	1	0
			Camblet	Mohair			Yards	0	6	8
				Worſted			Yards	0	2	6

Medium of the present Market Price on Exports.	Denominations.		Medium of the present Mark. Price on Import.
£. s. d.			£. s. d.
1 0 0	Cheese	C. q. lb.	1 10 0
	Chocolate	lb.	0 2 6
Value.	Coaches and Chaises	Value	
	Coals	Tons	0 15 0
	Coffee	C. q. lb.	10 0 0
	Copper Plates and Bucks	C. q. lb.	5 0 0
1 5 6	Cordage	C. q. lb.	1 3 4
	Cork	C. q. lb.	3 10 0
	Corn: Barley and Malt	qrs.	1 2 0
	Corn: Beans and Peafe	qrs.	1 5 0
0 9 9	Corn: Oats	qrs.	0 15 0
2 4 0	Corn: Wheat	qrs.	2 3 4
1 16 8	Candles	C. q. lb.	
3 10 0	Copper Ore	Tons	
	Cotton, Linen, and Silk Manufacture	Value	
1 12 0	Corn: Barley	qrs.	
1 0 0	Corn: Beans	qrs.	
1 3 0	Corn: Malt	qrs.	
1 0 0	Corn: Peafe	qrs.	
0 2 0	Drapery: New	Yards	0 2 6
6 8 0	Drapery: Old	Yards	0 14 0
	Drapery: Prunella	Yards	0 4 0
	Drapery: Shagg	Yards	0 4 0
	Drugs	Value	
	Dying Stuffs: Allum	C. q. lb.	0 13 0
	Dying Stuffs: Anotto	C. q. lb.	0 18 0
	Dying Stuffs: Argal	C. q. lb.	1 2 0
	Dying Stuffs: Brazillito	C. q. lb.	0 14 0
	Dying Stuffs: Cochineal	lbs.	1 0 0
	Dying Stuffs: Copperas	C. q. lb.	0 6 8
	Dying Stuffs: Fuftick	C. q. lb.	0 14 0
	Dying Stuffs: Galls	C. q. lb.	3 0 0
	Dying Stuffs: Indigo	lbs.	0 6 8
	Dying Stuffs: Logwood	C. q. lb.	2 5 0
	Dying Stuffs: Madder	C. q. lb.	1 5 0
	Dying Stuffs: Orchal	C. q. lb.	1 2 0
	Dying Stuffs: Redwood	C. q. lb.	2 0 0
	Dying Stuffs: Sanders	C. q. lb.	6 0 0
	Dying Stuffs: Shumack	C. q. lb.	0 13 4
	Dying Stuffs: Smalts	lbs.	0 1 0
	Dying Stuffs: Stone Blue	lbs.	0 0 7
	Dying Stuffs: Sweet Wood	C. q. lb.	
	Dying Stuffs: Weeds, or Straw Weed	C. q. lb.	0 7 0
	Dying Stuffs: Woad	C. q. lb.	0 15 0
	Dying Stuffs: Small Parcels	Value	
	Earthen Ware	Value	
	Elephant's Teeth	No.	0 5 0
	Fans	No.	0 1 8

Medium of the present Market Price on Exports. £.	s.	d.	Denominations.			Medium of the present Mark. Price on Imports. £.	s.	d.
2	0	0	Fiſh: Anchovies —	The	Barrel	0	16	0
1	5	0	Cod —	—	C. q. lb.	4	0	0
			Cod —	—	Barrel	1	0	0
0	15	0	Herrings —	—	Barrel	1	0	0
3	0	0	Ling —	—	C. q. lb.	4	10	0
			Oyſters —	—	Gallon	0	2	0
			Pilchards —	—	Hhd.			
12	0	0	Salmon —	—	T. qr.	12	0	0
			Stock —	—				
			Sturgeon —	—	Keg	0	12	0
1	2	0	Eels —	—	Barrel			
1	10	0	Hake —	—	C. q. lb.			
2	0	0	Feathers —	—	C. q. lb.			
			Flax: Dreſt —	—	C. q. lb.	2	0	0
			Undreſt —	—	C. q. lb.	1	15	0
			Flints —	—	M.	0	2	6
			Furs —	—	Value			
			Fuſtian Ends —	—	End	0	15	0
0	0	10	Flannel —	—	Yard			
1	10	0	Flax Seed —	—	Hhd.			
0	1	0	Fuſtians —	—	Yard			
0	1	8	Frize — —	—	Yard			
			Caſes —	—	No.	1	10	0
per Hd. 0	1	0	Drinking —	—	No.	0	0	2
			Rheniſh —	—	Webb			
			Vials —	—	No. Hhd.	0	6	8
			Glaſs Ware —	—	Value			
1	13	4	Glew —	—	C. q. lb.	0	16	8
0	1	6	Gloves —	—	Pair	0	3	0
			Grindſtones — —	—	Chald.	0	16	8
			Groceries: Almonds —	—	C. q. lb.	2	15	0
			Anniſeeds —	—	C. q. lb.	1	6	8
			Cinnamon —	—	Lbs.	0	8	0
			Cloves —	—	Lbs.	0	10	0
			Cocoa Nuts	—	Lbs.	0	1	0
			Currants —	—	C. q. lb.	2	5	0
			Figs —	—	C. q. lb.	0	12	6
			Ginger —	—	C. q. lb.	1	10	0
			Hulled Barley	—	C. q. lb.	1	2	0
			Liquorice —	—	C. q. lb.	1	2	0
			Mace —	—	Lbs.	0	16	8
			Nutmegs —	—	Lbs.	0	10	0
			Pepper —	—	Lbs.	0	1	4
			Piaminto —	—	Lbs.	0	1	0
			Prunes —	—	C. q. lb.	0	6	8
			Raiſins —	—	C. q. lb.	1	4	0
			Rice —	—	C. q. lb.	0	18	0
			Saffron —	—	Lbs.	1	10	0

Medium of the present Market Price on Exports.	Denominations.		Medium of the present Mark. Price on Imports.
£. s. d.			£. s. d.
	Groceries — Succards — The	Lbs.	0 3 0
	Groceries — Succus Liquoritiæ —	Lbs.	0 0 8
	Groceries — Sugars — Candy —	C. q. lb.	
4 12 0	Groceries — Sugars — Loaf —	C. q. lb.	6 0 0
	Groceries — Sugars — Muſcovado —	C. q. lb.	2 5 0
	Groceries — Sugars — White —	C. q. lb.	4 0 0
	Groceries — Small Parcels —	Value	
	Gunpowder —	C. q. lb.	3 5 0
	Haberdaſhery. — Gold and Silver — Fringe	Oz.	0 10 0
	Haberdaſhery. — Gold and Silver — Twiſt	Oz.	0 4 6
	Haberdaſhery. — Inkle — Wrought	Lbs.	0 5 2
	Haberdaſhery. — Inkle — Unwro't	Lbs.	0 3 0
	Haberdaſhery. — Laces —	Gro. Doz.	0 3 6
	Haberdaſhery. — Needles —	Doz. Th.	3 2 6
	Haberdaſhery. — Pins —	Doz. M.	0 18 0
	Haberdaſhery. — Thimbles —	No. M.	2 0 0
	Haberdaſhery. — Thread. — Bridges —	Lbs.	
	Haberdaſhery. — Thread. — Black —	Lbs.	
	Haberdaſhery. — Thread. — Gold and Silver	Lbs. oz.	2 0 0
	Haberdaſhery. — Thread. — Outnal —	Lbs.	0 5 6
	Haberdaſhery. — Thread. — Piecing —	Lbs.	
	Haberdaſhery. — Thread. — Siſters —	Lbs.	0 15 0
	Haberdaſhery. — Thread. — White brown	Lbs.	0 2 8
	Haberdaſhery. — Thread. — Small Parcels	Value	
	Hair — Camels' —	Lbs.	0 8 0
	Hair — Goats' —	Lbs.	0 2 6
3 0 0	Hair — Human —	Lbs.	0 1 10
0 5 0	Hats —	No.	0 15 0
	Hemp — Dreſt —	C. q. lb.	1 0 0
	Hemp — Undreſt —	C. q. lb.	0 15 6
	Hemp Seed —	Hhd.	2 10 0
	Hops —	C. q. lb.	5 0 0
6 0 0	Horſes —	No.	10 0 0
	Hardware —	Value	
1 0 0	Hogs —	No.	
1 10 0	Hogs' Lard —	C. q. lb.	
0 16 8	Horns — Ox and Cows —	C. q. lb.	
0 6 8	Horns — Tips —	C. q. lb.	
1 13 4		No.	
2 16 0	Hides — Tanned —	C. q. lb.	
1 6 8	Hides — Untanned —	No.	
	Indian Silk Stuffs —	Value	
per ton. 16 15 0	Ironmongers' Ware. — Iron —	C. q. lb.	0 16 0
	Ironmongers' Ware. — Knives —	No.	0 0 3
	Ironmongers' Ware. — Mermits —	No.	0 2 0
	Ironmongers' Ware. — Pots —	No.	0 5 0
	Ironmongers' Ware. — Razors —	No.	0 0 6
	Ironmongers' Ware. — Sciſſars —	Gro. Doz.	1 5 0
	Ironmongers' Ware. — Scythes —	Doz.	1 0 0

Medium of the present Market Price on Exports.	Denominations.		Medium of the current Mark. Price on Imports.
£. s. d			£. s. d
	Ironmongers' Ware. { Small Parcels —	Value	
2 0 0	Iron, wrought —	C. q. lb.	
Value	Ironmongers' Ware — —		
	Iron Ore — —	Tons	0 15 0
	Ivory, wrought — —	Lbs.	0 12 0
1 10 0	Kelp — — —	Tons	
	Lace { Gold and Silver — —	Lbs. Oz.	4 0 0
	Thread Bone — —	Yards	1 0 0
	Lamp Black — —	Lbs.	0 1 2
	Latten — —	C. q. lb.	6 0 0
	Lead { Pigs — —	C. q. lb.	0 10 6
	Red — — —	C. q. lb.	1 5 0
	Sheets — —	C. q. lb.	0 13 4
	Shot — — —	C. q. lb.	0 15 0
	White — —	C. q. lb.	1 6 8
Tons 2 6 8	Lead Ore — — —	C. q. lb.	4 0 0
	Lime, Lemon, and Orange Juices —	Gallons	0 2 0
	Linen { British — —	Yards	0 3 0
	Buckram — —	Yards	0 4 0
	Callico { Stained —	Yards	0 5 0
	White —	Yards	0 4 0
0 5 0	Cambrick — —	Yards	0 6 8
	Canvaſs — —	Yards	0 1 2
0 1 7	Coloured — —	Yards	0 4 0
	Cravats — —	Yards	
	Damaſk { Napkins —	Yards	0 5 0
	Tabling —	Yards	0 6 0
	Diaper { Napkins —	Yards	0 3 0
	Tabling —	Yards	0 3 0
	French — —	Ells	0 2 0
	Hamburgh — —	Ells	0 3 0
	Bagg — —	Ells	0 4 0
	Gallick —	Ells	0 5 0
	Kenting — —	Yards	0 2 0
	Lawns — —	Yards	0 3 0
	Muſlin — —	Yards	0 3 6
	Ticking — —	Yards	0 2 4
0 1 4	Plain — —	Yards	
	Linſeed — —	Hhd.	3 0 0
	Linen, Cotton, and Silk, Brit. Manuf.	Value	
	Maſks — —	No.	
	Matts — —	No.	0 1 4
0 15 0	Meal { Flour — —	C. q. lb.	0 12 0
0 10 6	Oat — — —	Barrel	0 7 0
	Wheat — —	Barrel	1 6 8
1 0 0	Groats — — —	Barrel	
	Millinery Ware — —	Value	
	Mill Stones — —	No.	1 5 0
0 15 0	Molaſſes — — —	C. q. lb.	

Medium of the present Market Price on Exports. £. s. d.	Denominations.		Medium of the current Mark. Price on Imports. £. s. d.
	Oakum	C. q. lb.	0 12 6
	Olives	Gallon	0 2 2
	Onions	Barrel.	0 10 0
	Oranges and Lemons	C. q. lb.	0 2 6
	Oils: Linseed	Hhd.	0 2 0
	Oils: Sevil	Gall.	0 3 4
	Oils: Sweet	Gall.	0 5 0
Ton 12 0 0	Oils: Train	Gall.	0 0 6
0 6 8	Ox: Bones	M.	
0 16 8	Ox: Guts	Barrel	
	Painting Stuffs	Value	
	Paper: Blue	Ream	0 4 0
Reams 0 1 6	Paper: Brown	Bundle	0 3 0
	Paper: Cap	Ream	0 4 4
	Paper: Card	Ream	0 5 0
	Paper: Painted	Ream	0 6 8
	Paper: Printing	Ream	0 2 4
	Paper: Pressing Leaves	Hund.	0 8 0
	Paper: Whited brown	Ream	0 1 6
0 3 0	Paper: Writing	Ream	0 6 8
	Paste Boards	No.	0 8 0
	Pewter	C. q. lb.	4 5 0
	Pictures	Value	
	Pitch	Barrel	0 10 0
	Plates of Tin	Barrel	2 2 0
	Pot-ashes	C. q. lb.	1 5 0
	Printing-letters	C. q. lb.	4 5 0
0 0 9	Plank, three Inch	Feet	
1 10 0	Pork	Barrel	
4 0 0	Pewter wrought	C. q. lb.	
	Quills	M.	0 1 8
	Quilts	No.	2 0 0
	Rape of Grape	T. hh. g.	
5 0 0	Ribband - Silk	Lbs. oz.	2 0 0
	Ribband - Silver	Lbs. oz.	0 10 0
	Rozin	C. q. lb.	0 10 0
0 5 6	Rabbits' Fur	Lb.	
1 12 6	Rape Seed	Qr. Bush.	
Value	Sadlers' Ware	Value	
	Salt: Foreign	Bush.	0 1 6
0 1 3	Salt: Rock	Ton	0 10 6
	Salt: White	Bush.	0 1 4
	Salt-Petre	C. q. lb.	2 10 0
	Seeds - Clover	C. q. lb.	0 18 0
	Seeds - Garden	Lb.	8 2 4
5 0 0	Silk: Manufacture	Lb. oz.	3 0 0
2 10 0	Silk: Thrown Dyed	Lb. oz.	1 15 0
	Silk: Thrown Undyed	Lb. oz.	1 5 0
	Silk: Raw	Lb. oz.	1 0 0

Medium of the present Market Price on Exports.			Denominations.		Medium of the present Mark. Price on Imports.		
£.	s.	d.			£.	s.	d.
			Buck	No.	0	2	6
6	0	0	Goat	C. q. lb.	8	0	0
			Losh	No.	0	10	0
			Seal	No.	0	1	6
			Sheep	C. q. lb.	2	2	0
			Turkey	No.	0	6	8
2	16	0	Skins - Calf	C. q. lb.			
1	2	6		Doz. No.			
0	1	2	Fox	No.			
3	2	6	Kid	C. q. lb.			
2	5	0	Lamb	C. q. lb.			
1	5	6	Rabbit	C. q. lb.			
0	5	2	Otter	No.			
			Slates	M.	0	6	8
			Snuff	Lb.	0	2	6
1	13	4	Sope	C. q. lb.	1	5	0
			Sope Ashes	C. q. lb.	0	16	8
			Spirits - Brandy	Gall.	0	2	0
			Geneva	Gall.	0	2	0
			Rum	Gall.	0	1	6
1	6	8	Starch	C. q. lb.	0	16	8
Value			Stationary Ware	Value			
			Steel	C. q. lb.	1	5	0
			Stockings - Cotton	Pairs	0	2	8
			Silk	Do.	0	15	0
			Silk and Cotton	Do.	0	7	6
			Silk and Worsted	Do.	0	7	0
doz. pr.	1	5	0	Thread	Do.	0	2	6
do.	1	4	0	Woollen	Do.	0	3	0
do.	2	0	0	Worsted	Do.	0	5	0
			Sword Blades	No.	0	2	0
6	0	0	Cyder	T. H. G.	5	0	0
			Sword-cutlers' Ware	Value			
0	5	0	Shoes	Lb.			
2	0	0	Silk and Worsted mixed Manuf.	Lb. Oz.			
Value			Sadlers' Ware				
			Tar	Barr.	0	12	0
			Tea - Bohea	Lb.	0	2	0
			Green	Lb.	0	6	0
			Tobacco	Lb.	0	0	6
			Tow	C. q. lb.	1	5	0
			Twine	C. q. lb.	3	0	0
			Toys	Value			
			Tiles	M.	1	10	0
			Tin	C. q. lb.	3	10	0
2	0	0	Tallow	C. q. lb.			
0	12	0	Tongues	Doz.			
			Velvet	Lb. Oz.	3	0	0
			Vinegar	T. H. G.	7	15	0

Medium of the present Market Price on Exports. £. s. d.	Denominations.			Medium of the present Mark. Price on Imports. £. s. d.
Value	Upholstery Ware —	The	Value	
	Walnuts and others —	—	Barr.	0 10 6
	Wax { Bees' —	—	Lb.	0 1 0
	Wax { Candles --	—	C. q. lb.	8 10 0
4 0 0	Wax —	—	C. q. lb.	
	Whalebone —	—	C. q. lb.	13 0 0
	Wine - { French —	—	T. H. G.	25 0 0
	Wine - { Port —	—	Do.	24 0 0
	Wine - { Rhenish —	—	Do.	24 0 0
	Wine - { Spanish —	—	Do.	30 0 0
Value	Wooden Ware —	—	Value	
	Wood { Balk —	—	C. q. lb.	20 0 0
	Wood { Barrel Staves	—	C. q. lb.	0 5 0
	Wood { Canes —	—	No. M.	5 0 0
	Wood { Casks empty	—	No.	0 2 6
	Wood { Clap Boards —	—	C. q. No.	6 5 0
	Wood { Clap Holt —	—	C. q. No.	6 5 0
	Wood { Deals —	—	C. q. No.	4 5 0
	Wood { Hoops —	—	M.	2 0 0
	Wood { Masts —	—	No.	2 5 0
	Wood { Oars —	—	C. q. No.	4 5 0
	Wood { Plank —	—	Value	
	Wood { Spars —	—	C. q. No.	3 5 0
	Wood { Timber —	—	T. Feet	2 15 0
	Wood { Wainscot —	—	C. q. No.	20 0 0
	Wool - { Beaver —	—	Lb.	0 18 0
	Wool - { Cotton —	—	C. q. lb.	4 0 0
	Wool - { Estridge —	—	C. q. lb.	4 10 0
	Wool - { Spanish —	—	C. q. lb.	4 10 0
0 10 0	Wool —	—	St. lb.	
	Wire - { Brass —	—	C. q. lb.	6 0 0
	Wire - { Iron —	—	C. q. lb.	2 5 0
	Wire - { Latten —	—	C. q. lb.	4 0 0
	Wire - { Steel —	—	C. q. lb.	7 5 0
	Yarn - { Cable —	—	C. q. lb.	1 12 0
0 1 0	Yarn - { Cotton —	—	Lb.	0 1 6
	Yarn - { Grogram —	—	Lb.	0 2 0
Cwt. 6 0 0	Yarn - { Linen —	—	Lb.	0 2 0
	Yarn - { Mohair —	—	Lb.	0 3 0
	Yarn - { Sail —	—	Lb.	0 0 6
1 10 0	Yarn - { Worsted —	—	Lb.	0 4 0
0 12 0	Yarn - { Woollen —	—	St. Lb.	
Value	Small Parcels — —	—	Value	

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